



Newsletter – Monday 8th April 2024

Educating 'for life in all its fullness.'

Striving for 100%

Attendance

School Year 23/24 So Far!

Reception	94.2%
Class 1	96.1%
Class 2	96.5%
Class 3	94.7%
Class 4	94.4%
Class 5	96.1%
Class 6	95.3%
Overall	95.3%

Our school attendance expectation is **97%**.

Attendance Really Does Matter...

- 50% of children are above the 97% attendance target. • 10% of children have 100% attendance.
- **9% of children (20) are classed as persistently absent** as their attendance is below 90%. This is being monitored by school and the local authority. • A number of sessions were marked as children arriving late during the last term. **School starts at 8:50am.**



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.

Our Easter celebrations at The Howard School were filled with creativity and joy! From the fantastic entries in the decorated egg competition to the heart-warming moments at our Easter Bonnet Parade and Great Egg Race, it was a truly egg-ceptional occasion for all involved.



Additionally, Year 3 and 4 delivered an incredible retelling of the Easter story in their production of "Roll Back the Stone"! Their passion and enthusiasm brought the powerful narrative to life, showcasing their talent and dedication. A special thank you to St. Cuthbert's Church for hosting this memorable performance.



We extend our gratitude to everyone who joined us and contributed to making these events unforgettable. Your presence and support made these moments truly special for our school community.

Calendar



April

Mon 8th – School Reopens (Summer Term)
 Wed 24th – RE Workshops R-Y5
 Thu 25th – Y3 First Aid Training & KS2 Refresher Assembly

May

Mon 13th – Thu 16th – KS2 SATs
 Fri 17th – Open Afternoon

Key Dates 2023-24

INSET Days
 INSET Days have been set for the next academic year in line with the Wakefield Council's School Calendar 2024/25.

The dates in which school will be closed to pupils include:
 Mon 2nd Sept 24'
 Tue 3rd Sept 24'
 Mon 2nd June 25'
 Mon 21st July 25'
 Tue 22nd July 25'

Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT Values for Life

This half term in collective worship we are focusing upon the value of: **COURAGE**
 This week's focus will be: **COURAGE**

Deuteronomy 31:6

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

Global Citizenship Thread

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

Share the News...

We currently have one post advertised on Wakefield Council's recruitment website. The closing date is today!

Playleader [Recruitment Link](#)

Statutory Assessments

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

- **Year 6 (KS2) SATs (Mon 13th May – Thu 16th May)**
- **Year 4 Multiplication Check (Within a 2-week period from Monday 3rd June)**
- **Year 1 Phonics Screening Check (Within the 1-week period from Monday 10th June).**

You can find out more about statutory assessments on our dedicated website page. This includes parent guides that have been shared via the text messaging service – [LINK](#).

Recent Letters – [Summer Lunch Menu](#) / [After School Activity Clubs \(SUM\)](#)



Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT

Enhancing Safeguarding Education

At Ackworth Howard, we prioritise the safety and well-being of our pupils by providing comprehensive personal development education, including a robust PSHE curriculum. Our aim is to equip our pupils with the knowledge and skills they need to safeguard themselves now and in the future.

This upcoming half term, we are pleased to announce our collaboration with Squaring Up, a specialist early intervention team dedicated to creating safer communities. Mrs. Button, a qualified teacher, will be leading workshops for children in Years 5 and 6 on Thursdays from 2:15pm to 3:15pm for the next 5 weeks. These sessions will cover important topics such as County Lines (Including Drugs), Hate and Discrimination, Anti-Social Behaviour, Digital Wellbeing (Including Social Media), and Vaping.

By addressing these local issues through intentional and meaningful workshops, we aim to bolster our pupils' understanding and awareness. We believe that by empowering them with knowledge, they will be better prepared as they transition into secondary school.

Additionally, our personal development curriculum includes a diverse range of literature, ensuring that our pupils have access to resources that reflect their experiences and provide valuable insights.

We are committed to working collaboratively with external partners like Squaring Up to enhance our safeguarding efforts and provide our pupils with the support they need to thrive.

Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT

Decorated Egg Competition

We had some wonderful entries in the decorated egg competition this year, including the Howard School Chickens, Popcorn Chicken, Glad-egg-iators, St. Cuthbert's Church (complete with Rev. Paul and Karen), Egg-citing adventures at Forest School, Paddington Bear on his way to Eggington, The Very Hungry Caterpillar, and many more fantastic creations!

It's always wonderful to see the end result of everyone's hard work.



Dinner Debate

This week's question to debate with family and friends at home:
'What is the most important human right?'

Howard's Got Talent

We had an exciting morning sharing some of our children's wonderful skills following Howard's Got Talent. A fantastic opportunity for children to perform and express themselves.

Reviewing Writing

In literacy, Year 3 have been working in pairs to edit and improve their independent writing. Great collaboration on show!

Easter Garden

Reception have been learning about the events of the Easter story and Holy Week. They worked together to make an Easter garden for the classroom.

Forest School

We love our Forest School sessions in our wonderful environment. Despite the rain our typical forest school days continue. Last week involved baking damper bread over a fire, s'mores, pancakes and fire challenges!

Delicious Soup

Year 1 have been enjoying their PE topic - fitness. They have been learning about how exercise helps their muscles. They had a competition to see who could balance on their leg for the longest!

Comparing Mass

In Nursery, the children have been comparing mass. They have enjoyed selecting different items from the classroom, making a prediction and then placing them in the balance scales. They have been using language of 'lighter' and 'heavier' to describe the objects.

Young Writers

Wonderful mini sagas from our Year 5 pupils who have created some interesting creatures and entered them in to the Young Writers competition. Good luck Year 5!

Twisted Tales

Year Two have been working hard on their handwriting and editing skills as they published their twisted tales.

Library Refurbishment

Our children are thrilled with our newly revamped and decorated library! They've even suggested drawing book characters to travel in the hot air balloons. What a fantastic idea!

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)

