

## Ackworth Howard Church of England (VC) Junior and Infant School

Station Road, Low Ackworth, Pontefract, West Yorkshire, WF7 7HH Tel: 01977 612124

Web: <u>www.ackworthhowardschool.co.uk</u> Email: <u>admin@howard.wakefield.sch.uk</u>

Headteacher: Mr. M Walker - BA (Hons) Chair of Governors: Mrs L. O'Brien

Educating 'for life in all its fullness.'

Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT

9th July 2020

## September Reopening Plans / End of the Academic Year

Dear Parents/Carers

I am pleased to share with you our plans for the full reopening of school on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2020. The government have stated that all pupils, in all year groups, will return to school full-time from the beginning of the autumn term and we are now ready to share with you the school guidance that has been produced in line with the government's



ow ready to share with you the school guidance that has been produced in line with the government's own guidance. When producing the document, we have been mindful of the need to reduce the number of contacts between children and staff whilst considering the practical logistics of the full function of the school. Please read this document carefully as it outlines key questions you may have about the return to school. The full guidance document can be found on our website:

I am pleased to confirm that our plans do involve the reopening of the wrap around care facility as well as being able to provide some after school activity clubs, albeit adapted given the circumstances. We are aiming to provide each year group with a club that they can join. Although it will be confirmed when we return after the summer, we have started pulling some ideas together and our activity club offer is starting to look something like this:

| Receptio | n:   |         |                                     |
|----------|--|---------|-------------------------------------|
|          | Early Years Adventures (Mrs Tordoff)   | Year 4: |                                     |
| Year 1:  |  |         | Woodwork Club (Mr Walker)           |
|          | Lego Club (Mrs Robinson)   |         | Creative Club (Mrs McLoughlin)      |
|          | Story Time for Healthy Hearts and Minds (Miss                                  | Year 5: |                                     |
|          | O'Brien)   |         | Code Club (Mr Nunn)                 |
| Year 2:  |  |         | Textiles Club (Mrs Fisher)          |
|          | Pebbles Yoga Club (Ms Beaumont)  | Year 6: |                                     |
|          | Football (Ackworth Juniors Coach)  |         | Catch Up/Booster Group (Mr Barstow) |
| Year 3:  |  |         | Forest School Club (Mr Baker)       |
|          | Multi-Skills Sport Club (Xcite Sport and Fitness)<br>Baking Club (Mrs Telford) |         | Young Voices (Mrs Robinson)         |

We have been working extremely hard to transform our curriculum and are very excited to share with you some of the work that we have been doing. I am now able to share with you the draft curriculum brochure that we have produced so that you can see the kinds of things we are planning and the direction we are taking ensuring that we utilise the things that make



our school special. We hope that you are just as excited about it as we are! In September we will also be launching our new website which will have all the new curriculum information including the key essential knowledge that we will be teaching for each subject in each year group. You can find our draft curriculum brochure here:

https://www.ackworthhowardschool.co.uk/sites/default/files/attachments/curriculum\_brochure\_2020-2021.pdf

> Compassion Forgiveness Friendship

Another exciting development for September is the completion of our Makerspace. A creative space that has been designed to engage learners in hands-on activities. The emphasis in makerspaces is placed upon educating in STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics) subjects as well as digital and information literacy. Insulation and electrics have been fitted this week and the resource should be close to completion by the end of next week. We can't wait to share some photos on our Facebook page next week and start using the facility in September! You can find out more about makerspaces on our website:

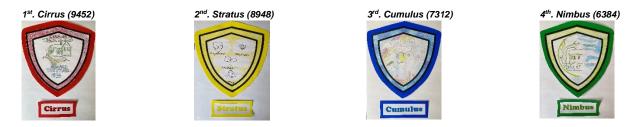
https://www.ackworthhowardschool.co.uk/learning/makerspace

We are extremely proud of our Year 6 children who are leaving us this year to join their secondary schools. We hope that the children have enjoyed their time here at Ackworth Howard and are 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.

Unfortunately, the children have not been able to end their primary school days in the usual way because of the circumstances but we are keen to provide some closure for the children and an opportunity to celebrate their time here. Should the situation allow in the Autumn term, I would like to invite the year 6 children into school one evening and provide them with a formal sit down meal in school where we can share stories of their new schools and celebrate and discuss their favourite moments and achievements during their time at our school. More information will follow in the new school year.

This week we welcomed our new Nursery and Reception parents. We couldn't do this in the usual way but we were able to undertake our parent transition meetings via Zoom. Mrs Tordoff and Miss Hunter are also delivering story telling sessions for the new children as part of their transition. We look forward to welcoming the children and their families to our school community.

Recently we provided an opportunity to bring our school community together by arranging a virtual sports day where everyone could take part in the activities, submit their scores and contribute to their house team totals. Well done to everyone who took part. The results were as follows:



Please bear in mind that the reopening plans outlined rely on the government's judgement of where we are in the pandemic. If anything changes, I will communicate this to you as quickly as possible.

I am aware that a number of parents and children may be anxious about their children returning in September. Please be reassured that when the children return, we will meet them where they are, socially, emotionally and academically and provide the necessary support to ensure an appropriate and sensitive return.

I would like to thank 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!

As we swiftly arrive at the end of an unprecedented and surreal 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 these past few months particularly. As I am sure you are only too aware, this situation has been extremely difficult to navigate and your understanding and positivity has been greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

M. walke

Mr M Walker

**Headteacher** 

## **Upcoming Diary Dates:**

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July – School Closes Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September - INSET Day 1/5 (Teacher Training) Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September – INSET Day 2/5 (Teacher Training) Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September – School Reopens for Pupils

Compassion Forgiveness Friendship