



The Howard Primary School

Newsletter February 2022

Our Motto: Believe and Achieve **Our Values:** Love - Respect - Friendship

Email: howardoffice@tssmat.staffs.sch.uk website: <https://www.howard.staffs.sch.uk/>

Twitter: [@HowardElford](https://twitter.com/HowardElford) Telephone: 01827 383292 **Remember to refer to Class Dojo for daily updates**

Dear Parents and Carers

I would just like to say an enormous thank you for your help and support over what has been a really challenging term. Although we have faced many staffing challenges, together we have made sure that the children's experience of school has continued to be rich and happy. I have certainly seen the children flourish this half term and I know our children enjoy coming to school, and that is thanks to the hard work and dedication of my brilliant staff!

As we approach half term, I wish you a safe and happy time and we look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 28th February for what is set to be an exciting and enriching half term. We have York, Whitemoor lakes and the Great Fire of London experience day to look forward to, amongst other special events in church.

Thank you everyone in our Howard family!

Best wishes,

Miss R Mills

Headteacher

Message from the CEO- Mrs Gethin and Ralph

Dear Parents and Carers,

I cannot believe another half term has flown by and, as it comes to an end, I simply wanted to pen a little message to you to say that your children have been awesome, they have been resilient in the light of staff changes and have maintained good learning attitudes. I want to thank our staff for their hard work and for pulling together so collegiately and compassionately to maintain great provision for our children. Everyone has lived by the values we hold dear, friendship, respect and love and indeed modelled to our children and each other the key values from the autumn term teachings - responsibility and service, I am grateful.



Directors and I are so thrilled to have seen such wonderful work across the trust, fantastic opportunities for our children with such an enriched curriculum with vibrant teaching. I am excited about the next term to come with even more widening opportunities to get together, get out and about and do what we do so passionately and well.

I hope that you manage to have some time off work or balance your lives so that you can spend time with the people who mean the most to you and I look forward to seeing you in Spring 2, a special Easter term.

Hebrews 10.24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, (Niv)

Congratulations- KS2 Healthy Salad Bowl Winners!

Congratulations to our winners

Jack, Max, Toby and Dhillon.

A special mention also goes to Oliver, Philomena and Phoebe.

We had an amazing number of entries and Helen Thorne (Phunky Foods) found it difficult to judge. They all certainly looked delicious and I know I will be trying some out at home. It's been lovely to see some children bringing in their own design to eat at lunchtimes-well done KS2!



Staffing Update

We welcomed Mr Challinor this term to take over Class 3. The whole class has settled in well and it is a lovely calm and purposeful learning environment.

We welcome our new school secretary, Mrs Moss to our school. She works in the office 8:30-1:15, Monday to Friday. So you can now resume contacting the office for any queries.

In terms of Music provision, Miss Lambert has done a fantastic job stepping into the footsteps of Mrs Parkes. Black belt karate will stop this next half term and instead Progressive Sports will take over to focus on multi-skills in Class 2 and 3. Madame Elliot continues to teach French.

We have recently made an appointment for the position of teaching assistant and Friday Care club supervisor. I will let you know more information next term.

Alex Weaver, is the Head chef across the academy and we thank him for helping prepare meals during this challenging time. We are in the process of recruiting a new cook, please click this link to view the vacancies we have <https://tssmat.staffs.sch.uk/job-vacancies>.

Parent Forum

Please join us at our next forum which will be on

Friday 1st April at 3pm.

The parent representatives for each class are as follows.

- Mr Sheldrake- Class 1
- Mrs Oakley - Class 2
- Mrs Standerwick - Class 3

We thank them for their time and commitment.



Friends Update

As you know the current Friends members will all be stepping down in July. It's been a really fun four years but it's time for the next generation to take over! We are holding a meeting for anyone interested in joining the new team, to learn the ropes from the existing team on:

Tuesday March 1st, 7pm, at the Crown

All parents and carers welcome, please spread the word!

Care Club

I am looking at ways to make sure that Care Club staff know the numbers for Care Club prior to the sessions so that they can plan for the activities and the snacks etc. We need to make sure that we are not overwhelmed or indeed have fewer children than anticipated, as this is not cost-effective.

Therefore, for Spring 2, we will be trialling using Google forms to book into Care Club for the next half term. Of course, we will always endeavour to provide care for emergencies, You can do this by contacting the office.

Please complete the relevant forms by Sunday 27th February.

WC 28.02.2022 <https://forms.gle/XzsvrRuUYdruBh7i6>
WC 07.03.2022- <https://forms.gle/u6pyaPLh5bomAJyq9>
WC 14.03.2022- <https://forms.gle/1WuSs8Kc54tLEKySA>
WC 21.03.2022- <https://forms.gle/27ry653ZNeUFjWaN6>
WC 28.03.2022- <https://forms.gle/pDTAs9He7DR4Kutq9>
WC 04.04.2022- <https://forms.gle/cyq2wtVqfS1ALPFKA>
We will trial this but would appreciate feedback to see if it works.

Online Safety Newsletter

E-Safety News

As a school, we recognise the ever-changing world of technology around us. Therefore, to support us, we have signed up for a monthly newsletter that will offer information and support on the latest trends and safety advice. These will be emailed to you and also saved under the E-Safety tab on the school website.

<https://www.howard.staffs.sch.uk/parents/e-safety>



Attendance: 94.08%

Target: 96.5%

It is essential that children attend school regularly and maintain a pattern of good attendance throughout their school career.

Excellent attendance at school is important to allow a child or young person to fulfil their potential.

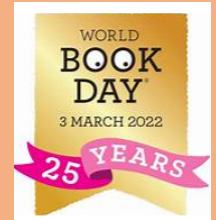
For more information about attendance, please see the Attendance letter from Mrs Gethin, 10th January 2022, which is in the letters section of the website.

<https://www.howard.staffs.sch.uk/parents/letters>

You will all receive a copy of your child's attendance to date, as a reminder.

World Book Day- 3rd March- WE NEED YOU!!!

After last year's successful community book hunt during lockdown, we are calling upon the community of Elford to help us create a book hunt for World Book Day this year! It is really simple to do, but the more people in the village that we can involve, the better it will be for the children, so please spread the word!



1. On the night of Sunday 27th February, please place a child's book in your window facing out so that it can be seen from the street and leave it there until the evening of Friday 4th March.
2. Throughout different points in the week the children will go book hunting around the village in small groups with their teachers.
3. The children will have a recording sheet and will compare how many books they have found, which type of books were the most popular and also discuss their favourite book.

The main objective is to have fun, talk about books and have a bit of exercise! Please feel free to give us a wave if we pass your house, and from all of us, a big thank you for last year's success! We hope that this year we will see even more books in windows!

PE and Sports

For Spring 2, Class 2 and 3 will take part in 'Progressive Sports, focusing on multi-skills and Class 1 will continue to have Mr Challinor for specialist sport's provision.

KS2 Swimming- Summer Term (Class 2 & 3 only)

Please complete the google form if you think your child requires extra 'Top-up' swimming lessons during the Summer term. <https://forms.gle/dpJuJR2e6r3XuNmAA>

Upcoming Dates and Events-2022

Please check our website for constantly updated information: <https://www.howard.staffs.sch.uk/events>

Please also continue to check Class Dojo for regular updates.

21st-25th February- HALF TERM

28th February- All children return to school at 8:30am

1st March- 2nd March-Class 2 visit to Whitemoor Lakes

3rd March- World Book Day

3rd March-4th March- Class 3 Visit to York-Viking Focus

18th March- Red Nose Day

23rd March- Class 1 Great Fire of London 'experience day' at St Mary's

25th March- Mother's Day Service at St Peter's church 2pm

1st April- Parent Forum- 3pm

8th April- Easter Service at St Peter's church 2pm

11th April-22nd April- Easter Holidays

25th April-All children return to school at 8:30am

2nd May- Bank Holiday Monday

9th May-12th May-[KS2 Sats Week](#)

16th May-20th May- [KS1 SATS \(Year 2\)](#)

18th May- May Queen Celebrations and singing around the village- details TBC

23rd May-3rd June- Whitson Holidays

6th June-All children return to school at 8:30am

6th June-10th June- [Year 1 Phonics Screening Check](#)

6th June-10th June-[Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check](#)

8th June- Year 6 Green Power Race Day

7th July- 9:30am Whole-School Sports Day (first choice)

14th July- 9:30am Whole-School Sports Day (second choice if rained off from previous week)

18th July- 5pm Year 6 Leavers Play at Village Hall

Please Note: These dates and events are subject to change and will take place inline with Covid-19 guidelines and restrictions

School trips to be added to website and Class Dojo, once confirmed.

Class blogs

Don't forget that each week you can see what your children have been up to in their classes by visiting their class blogs.

<https://www.howard.staffs.sch.uk/news-events/blogs>

On behalf of all the staff we would like to wish you and your children a....

