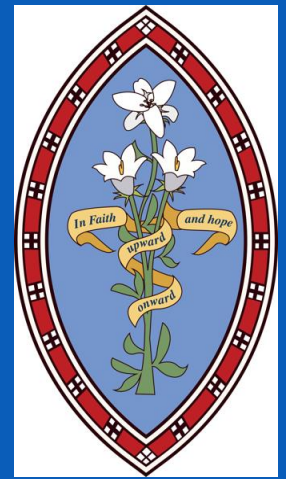


The Howard NEWSLETTER

July 2022

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



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

Twitter: @HowardElford Telephone: 01827 383292 Remember to refer to Class Dojo for daily updates

Message from the Head teacher

Well, what an amazing year we have had. Covid now seems like a distant memory as we embrace the fun-packed Summer term. We have certainly made up for lost time with the amount of trips, visits and enrichment activities provided and organised by school and our AMAZING Friends! It is with the hard work and dedication of the staff and friends that the school is thriving.

It's that time of year when we have to say our goodbyes. First, we will say goodbye to our FANTASTIC Year 6 children. All of them will be an asset to their chosen High school and they are lucky to have them. We will miss Year 6 and the families who leave with them. We wish them good luck and best wishes for the future and hope you leave with many treasured memories.

In terms of staff, we say goodbye to Ms Stretton. She has done a fantastic job and ensured that the children in Class 1 get the very best education. We wish her luck in her new role at St Mary's.

In September, we look forward to welcoming our new Reception children. We will make sure that they settle into life at The Howard as smoothly as possible and we know that you will all warmly welcome them.

In terms of staffing, we welcome Mrs Powles and Mrs Fallows who are both experienced teachers. They will certainly be an asset to our existing team. We also are happy to announce that Miss Carroll will be with us until at least December. She will be supporting in the afternoons and leading maths interventions.

With our last day being **Tuesday 19th July**, we wish you all a safe and happy holiday. Please be reminded that we welcome everyone back on **Monday 5th September at 8.30 am**

I have included the information about arrangements for September in this newsletter, so please make sure that you read the information carefully so that you and your child are fully prepared.

If you have any questions or queries, however small, then please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Happy Holidays and best wishes,
Miss Mills



Message from the CEO- Please see letters section of the website: <https://www.howard.staffs.sch.uk/parents/letters>

Friends Update

Hard to believe the school year is nearly over!

It's been a very busy term for PTA events, and we will definitely be looking at trying to make things more evenly spread in the future. But we didn't want to end the year without saying a few thank yous. So....

Thank you so much for getting behind the Colour Run! It was so lovely to hear the kids utterly beside themselves with joy. The May Walk and May Queen returning was so lovely after last few years. Sports day baps, leavers play! Happy kids! Adults fed and watered!

We are also so pleased to welcome Fran on to our new PTA group, who's already has been helping loads, alongside baby Joey.

Massive thanks to our librarian team: Laura M, Laurie and Lynn (3 librarian L's!); they've been sorting, categorising, and renewing the library and class books and prepping the "50 reads" ready for launch. Massive undertaking, so thank you! It's already looking great.

We also move on to submitting our Forest School grant application to help improve wildlife and connections with nature. Keep everything crossed for us! Emily has worked so so hard on this.

The outgoing PTA will have some news for you soon about the previous established funds! It sounds wonderful. We'll let them announce this to you all!

Finally, here is a summary of what has been raised and spent since March. Thank you for all your support as always.

Have a wonderful summer break and all the best to our Y6 leavers in their next chapter - we're so proud of you all.

Take care,
Rachael and Emily

WHAT YOU HAVE MADE HAPPEN...

£120

*From sales of wild garlic went directly back into forest school equipment



A Massive Thankyou for all that you raised



£1854.42

SPENT ON '50 RECOMMENDED READS'

THESE WERE MAINLY LOCALLY SOURCED, EACH YEAR RECEIVING 50 NEW BOOKS



£40

commemorative Jubilee photo



£446.16

On our Y6 leavers

- £120 on hire of village hall (**part covered by leavers bar)
- £73 on the performance
- £149.99 hoodies and gifts
- £60 on adventure farm
- £43.17 SATS Breakfast

Achievement Assembly

Achievement Assemblies will now take place on a *Monday afternoon at 3pm*. The first assembly will be held online on Monday 19th September. All parents are welcome to attend. Please remember to bring in any outside achievements for us to celebrate during this assembly,



School Uniform

Please see [uniform](#) for more details. We will be having yearly uniform sales so that we can recycle clothing at a reduced cost. Please contact friends regarding sales or if you would like to donate uniform.

Please make sure that all uniform and resources are CLEARLY LABELLED with your child's name. You would not believe the amount of lost uniform we have due to it not being labelled correctly.

Please minimise this by using a label or by writing your child's name on the tag with biro.

Attendance



If your child is ill or unable to attend school for any reason, you must let us know by telephone on the first morning of absence. Mrs Moss will telephone you if no message is received. Any child absent without an appropriate reason, will be recorded as unauthorised and this may result in a penalty notice being issued by the local authority.

Please be reminded that holidays will not be permitted, unless they are exceptional circumstances. You must complete a holiday request form as soon as possible.

We send out letters to parents whose child's attendance has fallen to 96% or below. We hope that you understand that we have a duty to alert parents to their child's attendance.

Ongoing poor attendance (below 90%) is shared with our Education Welfare Officer (EWO). This can lead to an Attendance Meeting at school. The aim of these meetings is to give school, parents and the EWO the chance to sit together and look at reasons for absence, the impact this is having, and then discuss ways to improve the situation.

Whole-School
Attendance for
2021-2023:
95%

Target for
2022-2023:
97%

School Equipment

For children in Class 1, school will provide all the resources and equipment required.

For children in Class 2 and 3, bring in their own labelled pencil case and equipment. We suggest that children have their own pencil case with a pencil, rubber, sharpener, ruler, Pritt stick, a highlighter and colouring pencils. For those children writing in pen, they are encouraged to have a blue rub-out Frixion pen (see link below).

[Pilot Blue Frixion Rollerball Erasable Pens Pen 0.7mm Nib Tip 0.35mm Line BL-FR7 \(Pack Of 3\): Amazon.co.uk](https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B078383838)

Again, labelling items will ensure that items do not go missing or are returned to their rightful owner.



Autumn 1 Clubs

Thursday Lunchtimes- KS2 Lunchtime Football Club, run by Progressive Sports, free of charge but you must sign up as spaces are limited.

<https://forms.gle/LrL359FG3tRUsCeDA>

Thursday After-School 3:30pm-4:30pm Class 2 and Class 3 Netball Club, run by Progressive Sports charged at £5 per week.

<https://forms.gle/6aGMt2DzBvPKTBh6A>

Friday After-School 3:30-4:30pm Phunky Foods Cookery Club Open to all children and run by Miss Carter and Miss Carroll charged at £7.50 per week. This includes staff costs, ingredients etc. <https://forms.gle/q8rqTpxm6ubPLufJ8>

Care Club

Please complete the google forms to book your Care Club sessions for Autumn 1.

WC 05.09.22 <https://forms.gle/6oNPius4pSM4qQtv6>

WC 12.09.22 <https://forms.gle/QQkRhw5fGPcgx8HQ7>

WC 19.09.22 <https://forms.gle/yY6o35RPrCrorxMD8>

WC 26.09.22 <https://forms.gle/T6ttMj8mFAd6wsJ16>

WC 03.10.22 <https://forms.gle/LwPffQq4sXqs5jGE9>

WC 10.10.22 <https://forms.gle/t6kxaQbNZJEY5mho8>

WC 17.10.22 <https://forms.gle/Ah5zcc7SW4G3Wxiu5>

Please Note: Friday after-school hasn't been offered due to lack of interest.

Please contact the office if this is an issue and we will endeavour to assist.

Please complete the relevant forms by 30.08.22

We will always endeavour to provide care for emergencies, you can do this by contacting the office.

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.

Infant School Lunches

Children in Reception, Y1 & Y2 will be provided with a school meal each day in line with the Universal Offer for Free School Meals for infant-aged children and so will not require a packed lunch from home. Children in Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6) can order a school lunch for £2.70, or they can bring in a healthy packed lunch from home.

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>



P.E.

Children will need the correct PE kit. Remember jewellery is not allowed to be worn, including earrings, and long hair must be tied up. Some of our children are wearing the Howard tracksuits. These are not compulsory, but they are good quality, and the children look extremely smart. As we come to school in our PE kit, it is a good investment. Contact the office if you would like further details.

This year, we are really excited and lucky to have both *Progressive Sports* and *Stoke City*, enhancing our sports provision this year. I hope that this provision increases our chances of winning the *Quad Federation* events and events against other Tamworth Schools! Let's bring home the trophies!

Swimming

Swimming for Years 3 & 4 will take place every Friday starting on Friday 9th September. This will be for the entire Autumn term. For more details, please see the letters page of the website. [Swimming letter](#). Please complete the google goggle form, if goggles are required. *Google Goggle Form* <https://forms.gle/7Yb19Fb98dYxaipp7>

Parent Forum

Please join us at our next forum which will be on **Friday 23rd September 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.

Reading at the Howard

Summer Reading Challenge 2022



As you know, at The Howard, we believe that reading is an essential skill for life. Therefore, we would encourage you to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge which could be at your local library or online. For more details, please click the link:

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/news/general/gadgeteers-intro>

Summer Reading Bingo!

[booksfortopics.com/bingo](https://www.booksfortopics.com/bingo)

We also love a Reading Bingo Challenge. Take part in this Summer's challenge. Bring in your completed form for a certificate and Headteacher sticker which will be awarded in Achievement Assembly. Don't forget to send Miss Mills the photos so she can add them to our library display. <https://www.booksfortopics.com/bingo>

Home Reading – New 50 Recommended Readers

We love reading at the Howard so to engender a love of reading we are changing our home reader system. Thanks to the help of our amazing Friends, we have been able to purchase 50 Recommended Reads for each year group. These books are amazing and cover different genres, themes and text types. What better way to ignite a child's passion for books! Our parent Librarians are busy creating an exciting initiative to inspire our children to read all 50. That's 350 quality texts read throughout their time at The Howard...AMAZING! More details to follow the first week back! Here's the link to the page: <https://www.booksfortopics.com/yeargroups>

We actively encourage children to regularly read at home. It has such a positive impact on all areas of your child's learning and confidence. Little and often is best. Please sign the Home Reading planner each time your child reads. We will continue with our '5 times a reader' from September. If your child reads **five times a week** and their planner is signed, they will be entered into the weekly draw. The winner will be announced during the weekly achievement assembly, and they will receive a prize of a book.

Spelling Bee

In September, we will be launching our Spelling Bee. We will be hosting the termly MAT School Spelling Bee at the end of each term. The aim of the Spelling Bee is to celebrate the effort that the children are making with their spellings.



When will the children be tested?

The children will have until the final week of each term to learn their spellings. The class teachers will quiz the children in the class. All children will have a chance to celebrate their achievements. Children do not have to enter; however, practising these spellings regularly at home may give them confidence to take part. All children who take part in the Spelling Bee will receive a certificate in recognition of their achievement.

At the end of the summer term, a selection of children will be selected to participate in the Cross-MAT Spelling Bee Competition to hopefully win the MAT Spelling Bee trophy for their school. Here is the trophy. I do hope that the Howard will bring it home! Spelling lists will be available in September.

Whole School Book

To start off the Year, the Howard loves to begin with a 'Whole School Book' to base our English and PSHE around. This year we will begin with another Oliver Jeffers book called, 'What we Will Build'. Oliver Jeffers is one of Miss Mills' favourite children's authors, so we hope that the children enjoy this book too!

<https://www.oliverjeffers.com/whatwellbuild>



Key dates for 2022-2023

Please see link to website for key dates for the year, <https://www.howard.staffs.sch.uk/events>
Trips and visits will be added once confirmed, but the rest of the year is on there!

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



*Time is flying quickly, and you are growing fast,
I can't believe this year has gone and now is in the past,
We've had so many lovely times, with fun along the way,
Your smile has always cheered me up each and every day.
So, remember you're fantastic! A shining little star!
Go forward and just be yourself, perfect as you are!*

We would also like to thank you all for the generous gifts and thoughtful cards you have sent in. Whilst these are not expected, they are greatly appreciated, especially the lovely comments in the cards. Thank you!



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

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>