

The Howard NEWSLETTER

March 2023

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



"Though it is the smallest of all seeds, when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches." Parable of the Mustard Seed

Dear families,

At this point, my mind is full of ambivalent emotions because I am leaving my Howard family, my children and my home. However, I am certain that Mr Wynn will take on the mantle of Executive Headteacher and continue to make sure that our exceptional little school continues to be *'simply the best'*. Mr Wynn is extremely lucky to become part of the Howard community with passionate staff, supportive and proactive families and truly wonderful and enthusiastic children. I have had an AMAZING five years and I will look back on all that we have achieved together with pride and cherish those memories forever. It has been a privilege to lead such a happy, vibrant and thriving school.

I have always enjoyed coming to work and there is not a day that goes by when I do not get to see the talents, skills, confidence and enthusiasm of our children in some way or another. It is watching our Howard children grow and develop, achieving their potential, realising their ambitions, becoming responsible young citizens that drives every teacher and it has been a great pleasure to contribute to making this happen for so many of The Howard children.

The Howard will always have a special place in my heart as will the children, staff and families who have been an extension of my own family for the past five years. We have achieved so much together.

Going forward, I will hopefully see you all as we merge and grow the MAT and I wish the Howard community all the best for the future. I know that you will continue to be the 'hidden jewel' where our aspirational quote encapsulates the essence of our wonderful school,

"Though it is the smallest of all seeds, when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches." Parable of the Mustard Seed.

Love and best wishes,

Miss Mills

Message from CEO

Please also read Mrs Gethin's Easter message - on Dojo..

Friends of Howard- PTFA

Hi all 🌞

Feels like 5 minutes since we wrote the last newsletter!!!

The sponsored read was a huge success, thank you to all those who took part! A big thank you to Dee for organising it- she's currently adding up everyone's minutes to see who will win each class prize! As well as lots of epic reading, you also raised over £500. The teachers will help choose the books this money is spent on, but currently they are thinking of books to support project/topic work. We are overwhelmed by the response, thank you 🌞

Thank you to all those who managed to bring bags for clothes donation and Emma for organising. The hallway was over spilling with bags and we raised £172.50 !!

So...next event is the annual chocolate bingo! This will be on Wednesday 29th of March, filled to the brim with chocolaty goodness with the added win of a licensed bar!!! We hope you can come! Remember there is an adult section in the colouring comp too!!!!

With the better weather (hopefully) comes a few more events - here are a few dates for the diary!

- Sunday 7th of May - village coronation event
- Wednesday 17th of May - 100th May Queen
- Friday 23rd of June - Colour Run
- Friday 21st of July - Summer Fayre

If you'd like to help out with any of these, that would be amazing!!!! As always anyone is very welcome to join us, helping as little or as much as they wish! If you are interested send me a message or grab one of us at pick up!

And last but not least a little nod to our wonderful Head! This last half term has flown and I don't think the fact Miss Mills is moving to new exciting opportunities in the Mat has quite sunk in! We remain incredibly grateful and thankful for how she has transformed and loved our little school, the children have flourished under her dedication! Thank you so so so much Miss Mills! We hope you come and visit us!

On that note we hope you all have an epic holiday! Full of all the joy and all the chocolate eggs!

Take Care all,
Rachael and Emily xx

Good News- Mrs Aminu Returns

We are pleased to announce that Mrs Aminu is set to return to the Care Club. We have really missed her and are pleased that she feels well enough to return to work Monday- Thursday. Although Mrs Aminu is returning, due to the success of the clubs, we have decided to continue offering the range of after-school sports clubs as well as providing the care facility. See further details in the Care Club Section below.

Staffing update:

After Easter, we welcome Mr Wynn to our school as Executive Head. We know that you will welcome him in true Howard style. Miss Jennings has been promoted and takes on the role of Deputy Head. She will be classed based in Class 2 Wednesday to Friday.

Mrs Fallows has kindly agreed to work an extra day and will work Monday and Tuesday in Class 2 and continue working Thursday and Friday in Class 1. Our children are so lucky to have such experienced staff throughout the school and they are certainly reaping the benefits of their collective expertise.

Attendance



Government guidelines on attendance

Full attendance (100%) should be the standard expected.

Attendance of 97% or above is very good.

97-95% is good.

95-90% is poor

Below 90% is a serious cause for concern.

A letter will be sent to those children whose attendance is deemed poor or below. It is also important to get your children to school on time. Again, we will send out a letter to inform you about the number of late marks your child has received.

Whole-School

Attendance to

24/03/23

95.49%

Target for

2022-2023: 97%

Reception	95.96%
Year 1	93.97%
Year 2	94.82%
Year 3	96.54%
Year 4	94.40%
Year 5	95.63%
Year 6	96.51%

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

ATTENDANCE DURING ONE SCHOOL YEAR	EQUALS APPROXIMATE DAYS ABSENCE	WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY WEEKS ABSENCE	WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY LESSONS MISSED
95%	9 days	2 weeks	40 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	80 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	120 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	160 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	200 lessons
70%	57 days	11 ½ weeks	230 lessons
65%	67 days	13 ½ weeks	270 lessons

GETTING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL REALLY DOES MATTER

DID YOU KNOW...?

In a school year, if your child is late every day by...

Your child would have lost approximately...

or they would have missed approximately...

5 minutes	3 days from school	12 lessons
10 minutes	6 days from school	24 lessons
15 minutes	9 days from school	36 lessons
20 minutes	12 days from school	48 lessons
30 minutes	18 days from school	72 lessons

WAKE UP!

PLEASE ENCOURAGE PUNCTUALITY TO MAINTAIN ATTENDANCE

Care Club



Extra-Curricular Clubs

After half term there will be the following clubs available to our children. These clubs will run from 3:30-4:30pm. When you book, you will need to book for the series of lessons. we cannot do a weekly booking system. A booking form will be sent out and you can also contact Miss Moss to confirm your place.

Monday – Cheerleading
 Tuesday - Dodgeball
 Wednesday - Football
 Thursday – Archery

Unfortunately we are unable to provide a care club on a Friday going forward.

We will also offer Care Club 4:30-5.30pm Monday to Thursday. Please complete the booking form or contact Miss Moss to book these sessions.

Lunchtime Clubs

Monday (Wednesday when a BHT) - Sports Club led by SH Active Coach & Gardening Club & Eco led by GC
 Thursday- Sports Club led by SH Active Coach & Gardening Club & Eco led by GC

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.

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>

**INTERNET SAFETY
FOR FAMILIES**





Mary's and received the trophy for our school. Well done girls for having a winning attitude despite the weather!

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.

We continue to enrich our sports provision by using both *SH Active Sports* and *Stoke City*. Thanks to Mr Challinor, we have started to take part in competitive sports. Our girls in Class 3 have recently won against St

Parent Forum

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

Home Reading – New 50 Recommended Readers

Our Reading Challenge continues. Remember that those who reach the year group target will be entered into a raffle and get a chance to win a £5 Waterstones prize and visit Waterstones in Lichfield in July.

Here's a reminder of the accumulative target books to have read by the Summer Term.

<https://www.howard.staffs.sch.uk/children/reading-for-pleasure-reading-challenge>

Spelling Bee

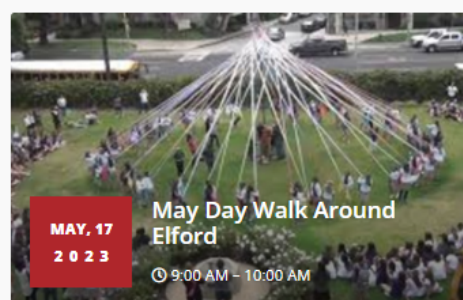
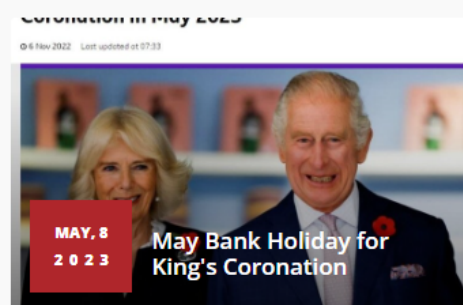
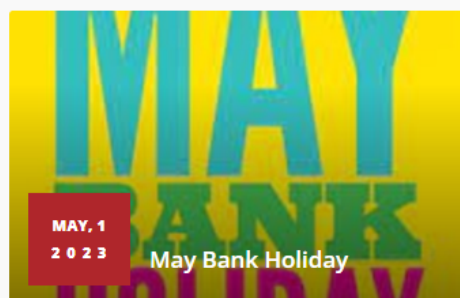
At the end of this half term, we had our Spring Spelling Bee for children in Year 3 to Year 6. In the Summer Term, there will be a MAT Spelling Bee. Children will be selected to represent our school from our Autumn and Spring Winners. The event will take place on Wednesday 28th June in the afternoon at Richard Crosse. The word list is on the website (see link below). I am hopeful that The Howard children will bring home the trophy. 'You've got to be in it to win it!'



See the website for more details <https://www.howard.staffs.sch.uk/children/spelling-bee>

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 happy and relaxing Easter Holiday full of fun and chocolate!

School returns on Monday 17th April at 8:30am.



[HTTPS://WWW.HOWARD.STAFFS.SCH.UK/](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](https://www.howard.staffs.sch.uk/news-events/blogs)

