

The Howard NEWSLETTER



December 2022

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

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Remember to refer to Class Dojo for daily updates

Dear families

What another amazing half term we have had, especially with the build up to Christmas. We have had a couple of reviews by Mrs Gethin and Miss Jarrett (from Anson Primary) and they have commented upon the outstanding behaviour of our children. I am certainly proud of all of our children as they conduct themselves brilliantly when in school and 'out-and-about' on trips and visits.

Our exciting curriculum has continued with many enrichment visits and experiences have been had by all (see blogs <https://www.howard.staffs.sch.uk/news-events/blogs>). This week, despite the illness of many, Class 1 and Year 2 have soldiered on and put on two magical performances of Wiggly Nativity. What a treat we had!

As the year of 2022 comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my staff for all their hard work and dedication in making this school the best it can be. I would also like the children for being truly amazing and for having a positive attitude towards school and their learning. I would also like to thank the parents for their overwhelming support. The new gates have been a blessing and the outdoor area has been greatly improved for all. Thank you to all who have been involved! The PTFA events could not happen without the dedication and hard work from our parents. I am truly blessed. Our school is 'Simply the Best!' and that's down to our 'family' ethos.

Although we close for Christmas this Friday, we still have many Elford events which include Electric Avenue on Saturday 17th December and Church Carol Concert on Sunday 18th December at 6:30pm. I hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Upon our return, Kick Start Academy will run our after-school club for this half-term. There will be two members of staff and lots of fun-packed activities for our children. It will run Monday to Thursday 3:30- 6pm. Please contact Miss Moss in the office for the booking form if you have not already completed it.

The second week back we will launch our new Spring menu. Miss Turner is busy learning the new delicious recipes. The new menu is at the bottom of this newsletter along with the menu for the first week back.

On behalf of the staff and myself, I would like to say an enormous thank you for the generous gifts and cards you have given to us this Christmas. It really is not expected, especially during these present times. Thank you.

All that is left to say is, have a peaceful, healthy and happy Christmas and I look forward to seeing you all upon our return Tuesday 3rd January 2023 at 8:30am. Where we will bring in a positive, exciting and hopefully healthy 2023.

Best wishes,
Miss Mills

Message from CEO

Directors, Ralph and I were so pleased and proud to attend the opening of The Howard's Forest School this week, it was such a special event. The Staffordshire Schools Multi Academy Trust are so grateful to the staff, led with Vision by Mrs Mills, the amazing PTFA, dedicated and supportive community and of course our children, what a wonderful achievement. We are also grateful to Transforming Trent Valley for their kind donation which helped make this possible. We are so excited to see lots more blogs and tweets of this wonderful provision being used by the children across the whole curriculum. Thank you. Mrs Gethin.

Please also read Mrs Gethin's Christmas message- on Dojo and on this link.

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



Achievement Assembly

The first Achievement Assembly of the new year will be on Monday 4th January at 3pm. All parents are welcome to attend. Please remember to bring in any outside achievements for us to celebrate during this assembly.



School 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.

New Menu

Please find the link to our Spring menu which will start on the 9th January.

Here's the menu for the first four days back. [Menu Spring Term 1](#)

Tuesday- Chicken Tikka Curry & Rice★

Wednesday- Pizza

Thursday- Sausages, potatoes and Veg★

Friday- Fish finger & chips- Veggie Breaded Bake

★quorn equivalent for Vegetarian option

Trainee Teachers

In the New Year, We would like to welcome two trainee teachers from Derby University who will be based in Class 1 and Class 2. This is their second year placement and they will be with us for the 10 weeks.



In Class 1 will be Miss Lawson



In Class 2 there will be Miss Acton

We welcome them to the Howard family and hope that they enjoy their time here.

Attendance



Whole-School
Attendance for
Autumn 2
95.85%

Target for
2022-2023: 97%

We have certainly been hit by all the germs this half term. With many of our children being poorly, attendance levels have dropped considerably.

A letter will be sent out to families whose children are deemed as persistently absent in order to raise the concern and offer support if needed. It is more important than ever to attend school regularly as missed learning does negatively impact on children. We understand that illness can't be helped but we want to make sure that if children are well they are in school.

Reception	97.70%
Year 1	94.20%
Year 2	98.62%
Year 3	95.63%
Year 4	94.16%
Year 5	95.30%
Year 6	96.39%

Care Club



Next half term, the after-school club will be run by Kick Start Academy. It is imperative that we have 'good attendance' as we are paying the company directly for their services. As you can imagine, paying for two members of staff means that it is quite costly to the school and it looks like the school will be running a deficit budget. Please help by supporting this club and book your spaces for the term as soon as possible.

Please contact Miss Moss to book your Care Club Sessions.

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.



Extra-Curricular Clubs

After half term there will be the following clubs available to our children. They must be booked by contacting the office to confirm your place. We will no longer use the google form and request you contact Mrs Moss via email, Dojo or phone instead.

Club	Day	Time	Year group	Cost
Choir	Tuesday	3:30-4:15	Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6	£30 for remainder of the year (Autumn 2 - Summer2)
Lunchtime Football Club	Thursday	12:45-1:15	Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6	Free
Drama	Friday	3:30-4:45	All year groups	£30 for 7 sessions.
Rugby (6 girls needed)	31st Jan 7th Feb Tuesday	3:30-4:30	Y4,5 &6	Free - need 60% girls required for this sessions.

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 has now finished for Class 2.

Parent Forum

Please join us at our next forum which will be on **Friday 17th February 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.

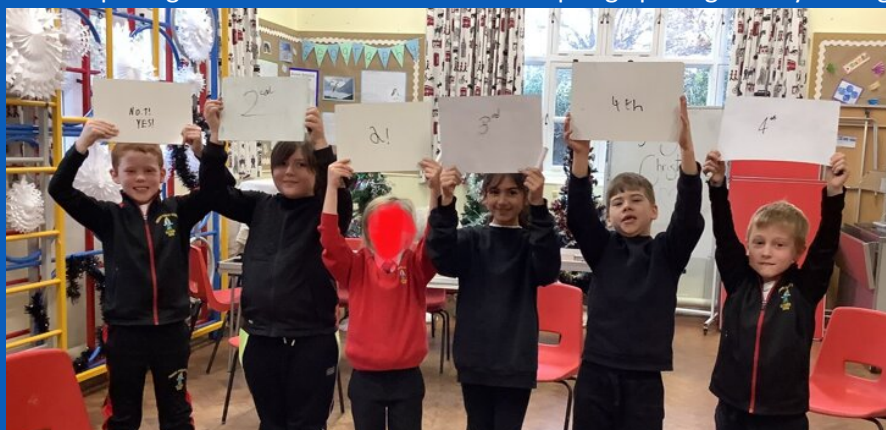
Reading at the Howard

Home Reading – New 50 Recommended Readers

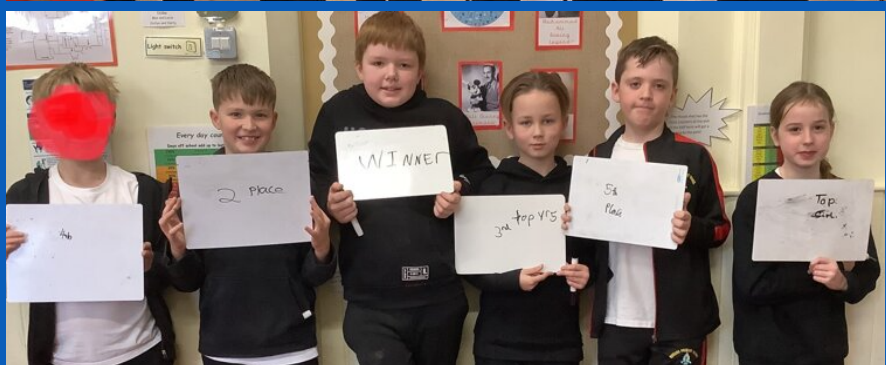
Our Reading Challenge has got off to a great start. We can really feel the 'buzz' about reading. They have got their last book for the Autumn term to read over Christmas. Certificates and prizes for those who have reached the Autumn target, will be awarded in the first Achievement assembly of the New Year.

Spelling Bee

Well done to our winners of the Autumn term School Spelling Bee. They did a fabulous job. Please see the link below for the spellings which will be included in the Spring Spelling bee- 'you've got to be in it to win it!'



Year 3 & 4 winners

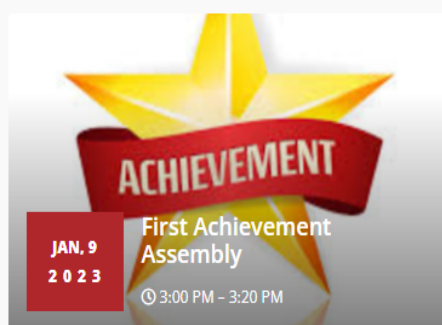


Year 5&6 winners

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 Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



[HTTPS://WWW.HOWARDSTAFFS.SCH.UK/](https://www.howardstaffs.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.HOWARDSTAFFS.SCH.UK/NEWS-EVENTS/BLOGS](https://www.howardstaffs.sch.uk/news-events/blogs)

