



Give your best, expect success!

7-Feb-25

Dear Parents and carers,

Our week started with an Academy Review Visit. These are days when Mr Symons, the Trust Director of Primary Education, and sometimes other heads from our Trust visit our school to find out more about what we do well here, what we're working on next and anything we may need some help with. He visited lessons and spoke to some of the children about their learning. As always, he was able to say that the children's conduct in school was good, lessons were purposeful and the general atmosphere was one of calm and positivity.

It's always nice to start the week feeling proud of ourselves and ready to move things on.

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Lewis.

Mr McColgan Visit: Mr McColgan, The Howard Academy Trust CEO, also visited this week in one of his regular drop ins. He enjoyed visiting each class but, as usual, Year 4 had the biggest "show off" keeping him in the room the longest telling him all about their learning!



It was nice to also show Mr McColgan how some of the special spaces we have been developing. Mrs Gee's Strawberry Patch is just about finished and is in use as a space for a quiet sit or chat and is well looked after by everyone. We've also given our Therapy Room a bit of a tidy and upgrade to create a multi-purpose space used for our visiting specialist therapists, small groups, 1:1s and chilling out! Thanks to Rosie and Millie for demonstrating

the chilling out!



We're just finishing the Library and then we will be ready for a grand opening of the newly designed Atrium area

House Captains' Challenge: Speaking of the Library, the House Captains have launched their Holiday Challenge today. This year's competition is to create some decorative items on the theme of: A Love of Reading and the winning entries will be displayed in our Library. The House Captains have written a letter all about it and it has been sent out today.

Numbers Day: we had lots of numbers fun today. The children turned up in clothing with numbers and we also some fabulously creative customised items - not to mention some stunning facepaint! Maths has never been so much fun!



Studybugs! Don't forget to sign up for Studybugs - an easy way to report your child's absence! Find our more here: <https://studybugs.com/about/parents>



An Astounding Quote: As you know, this term our theme has been resilience and, it seems, really impacted many of our children's outlooks. We have been working hard to develop our children's communication skills, focusing on oracy and seeking to give children lots of opportunities to speak up. to our children. One of these opportunities is in our weekly Talking Point Assemblies in which the whole school is set a question to discuss in their class assembly and they then vote on an outcome. This week's question was "Do you have to be under pressure to achieve great things?". Without prompting, one of our Year 1 children came up with: "I think that you should always have to put in an effort to achieve great things because that shows resilience." It's great that are children are becoming able to express their thoughts so well.



Wrap Around Care – After School Club: We are very pleased to be able to run our own After School Club, it means we can keep costs down and also offer some flexibility. However, to keep it running smoothly and in house, please ensure:

- ✓ Book in advance – a day ahead is fine, or even the morning before. This is to ensure registers are correct and we know who we are expecting. This also applies to Breakfast Club.
- ✓ Book for the correct session length – you have 2 options, until 4.30 or until 5.30. If you are late collecting after 4.30 you will be charged for the longer session.
- ✓ Give 24 hours notice of a cancellation, unless due to illness, you will still be charged. This also applies to Breakfast Club.
- ✓ If you are going to be late, please phone the school. After 4pm, there is now an option to select to be put straight through to the After School Club.

Movie Night: Movie Night is going to be slightly different this time. Nursery and Reception children will be having their film on Wednesday and it will finish at 4.00. Please note, due to choking guidance, Nursery children will be served crisps and chopped up hot dogs.

The older children will have their film night on Thursday and it will finish at approximately 5.25.

For both, the cut off for booking tickets is Monday 10th February at 6.30pm. We cannot take late requests as the shopping will be done on the Tuesday.

SEND Surgeries: From next week, Mrs Caselton will be running SEND surgeries for parents to come in and discuss their children. These sessions can be booked on Arbor.

Celebration Assembly: We sang and danced our way in and out of assembly today to Steps' song 5,6,7,8 - it seemed very fitting. We celebrated individuals who have achieved in art and PE today, as well as those having breakthrough moments in maths and English. Well done to all of our winners.

Attendance: Whole school attendance took a bit of a dip this week to 93% but our attendance for the Year is at 95% so we're still close to target. Butterfly Class were out Top Attenders this week with 98%!

This week's House Points:

DIAMOND	SAPPHIRE	EMERALD	RUBY
			
76	77	97	83

Well done to **EMERALD HOUSE!**

Dates for your diary: (Full details and booking etc to follow)

12th February – Film Night for Reception & Nursery

13th February – Film Night Years 1 - 6

14th February – Term ends

24th February – Term 4 begins

