



ENHANCE ACADEMY TRUST

NEWSLETTER

WINTER EDITION 2023

HORBURY BRIDGE: BISHOP OF WAKEFIELD LEADS SCHOOL MASS

It was an honour to welcome Bishop Tony, Bishop of Wakefield, to lead this half term's School Mass. The Church was packed to the rafters and, just like the Harvest Festival, the sounds of singing rang around Horbury Bridge.

The pupils in Class 1 read the prayers they had written with real confidence and the Servers helping the Bishop carried out their roles with true professionalism. As we continue to focus on fostering our values of Kindness, Courage and Community, the pupils' contributions during the Mass perfectly exemplified these values that are at the heart of our school ethos.

Many thanks to everyone who attended and we look forward to seeing you next half term.



ST GILES: GYMNASTIC SUCCESS

Our gymnasts competed against the whole of West Yorkshire coming 1st and 3rd in the competition.

Training takes up a lot of commitment so it's rewarding to see them achieving so highly.



DIAMOND WOOD: ATTENDANCE WINNERS

Class 8 and Class 12 at Diamond Wood have the best attendance for autumn 1!

Their reward was a cinema trip to see Paw Patrol. We also had popcorn and juice! Well done for coming to school everyday. Let's keep it up!

"I loved all of it!" Child E.



VERTHORPE: BIKEABILITY



During our first week back in Autumn 2, 29 children took part in their Bikeability Level 1 and some made it their Level 2. The wind and rain didn't wash away their big smiles as they learnt vital skills they would need to gain a qualification to ride their bikes on the road. Children from Years 4, 5 and 6 spent all morning practising riding their bike proficiently ensuring they were sensible and more importantly safe. They learnt important information about road signs and hand signals which they were tested on before progressing onto Level 2. Ready with their new knowledge, the Level 2 children took their bikes out on the road around our local community.

All children showed outstanding endurance, friendship and trust. They were determined to succeed and were proud of all their new knowledge. It was lovely see the children support and cheer along each other to succeed. They can now take these skills with them to be safe on the road whilst riding their bike.

'I learnt new skills like pedal ready and right shoulder check. It was really fun because we got to be leaders' George - Year 4.

'I loved Bikeability because I feel safe on the roads' Arabella - Year 4.

'The Bikeability people teachers were great and I can't wait to use what I learnt to ride a bike safely on the roads.' Belle - Year 4.



ST GILES: UPDATE

At St Giles Academy, in History Key Stage One children have been deepening their understanding of the four different poppy types and what they represent. In English they have been studying the text 'Coming To England' by Floella Benjamin to celebrate black History Month and the experience of the Windrush Generation.



LEPTON: WELLNESS WARRIORS

Our Wellness Warriors were very excited to set up their new storage unit, which was purchased with fundraising organised by our school Charity Team.

Every lunch time, the Wellness Warriors host their club for children across school to access and enjoy.



SANDAL MAGNA: HOLIDAY CLUB

During the Summer, Sandal Magna partnered up with our local church, St Catherine's to provide a holiday club for children, who attend our setting. Our school provided staff and created activities while the church offered nutritious meals from their community café as well as the venue. The two-week club was a huge success and has been celebrated by Wakefield Council. The Local Authority have written a case study to show how wider community groups can successfully team up to support families within the community. 'Having an opportunity to run a programme like this gives us the staff a great deal of pleasure and appreciation to see the children during the long summer break to catch up with them and provide the arts, crafts, sports, outing activities along with the opportunity to be able to feed them with balanced meals in a fun and relaxed environment.' Sandal Magna Community Academy – Parent Support Advisor

Trips were organised to the local Sandal Castle and Hepworth Art Gallery, all within walking distance of the school so the children were able to experience what was available to them for free right on their doorstep beyond the HAF activities. "I enjoyed coming on the visit to the Gallery, it was really fun, I will be taking my children there more often. I always thought art galleries are boring but not anymore". Parent Feedback



HORBURY BRIDGE: CELEBRATIONS

It was lovely to see parents join us for the very first time on Friday 10th October as we opened the doors of our regular Celebration Assembly - the pupils loved having you there to share their successes. Additionally, our heartfelt appreciation goes out to our talented violin trio - Brooke, Annie and Eve.

Their beautiful performance of "City Lights" not only showcased their musical talent but also added a wonderful touch to the assembly's ambiance.

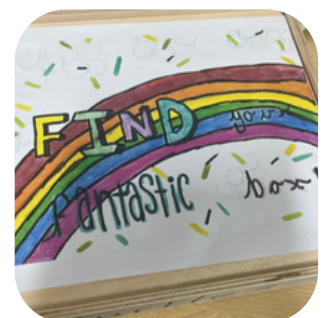
We look forward to continuing to welcome you and encourage all parents to join us if you can as we celebrate our pupils' continuous growth and achievement.



ST BOTOLPH'S: ANTI BULLYING WEEK

Our Junior Leadership team really enjoyed creating these "find your fantastic boxes" for the whole school as part of Anti-bullying week.

Every child's name in the class was put into the box and throughout the week, names were pulled out and the whole class said something about why that child is fantastic.



ST MICHAEL'S: CHILDREN MAKE BIRD BOXES FOR MILENNIUM GARDEN

St Michael's children created bird boxes as part of their outdoor education. We have put them up in our Millennium Garden to help the wildlife around our school thrive.

This also is a feature of our learning in Science – when we talk about living things and their habitats. The children worked collaboratively to create the birdboxes and learned a lot of new skills in the process.

Rosie Taylor, who is the outdoor specialist who teaches our children, was very impressed with the quality of the discussion during the making process and what the children produced at the end.



HORBURY BRIDGE: REMEMBRANCE DAY

We would like to extend our gratitude to all the members of our community who joined us on the 10th of November for our act of Remembrance at the War Memorial in Reid Park. It was an event marked by reverence and unity.

Although it was a solemn occasion, there was also an undeniable sense of strength and resilience carried through in our togetherness. The children, in particular, rose to the occasion beautifully, showing remarkable understanding of the solemnity of the day and mirroring our sentiments in their keen participation—a testament to their growing sense of global citizenship and empathy.

As we stood shoulder to shoulder in front of our War Memorial, we were reminded of the sacrifices made for the sake of peace. We remembered not just the tragedy of loss, but also the determination to uphold the values that we as a society hold dear.

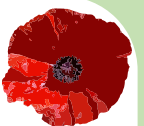
As we move forward into the rest of the school year, the lessons learned from the act of Remembrance remain with us. The poignant echoes of 'Lest We Forget' reverberate, reminding us to never lose sight of the courage, sacrifice, and resilience that we were privileged to honour on that crisp November morning.



ST HELEN'S: REMEMBRANCE DAY

Remembrance is a special time at St Helen's and this year we delved into our own family histories to share sources and discover family trees and find out about those who served our country in World Wars and other conflicts. It was fantastic to see so many medals, photos, uniform and even a visit from a serving soldier – bringing history alive!

Each class continued to make their Poppy Wreaths and Faith Team/School-Eco Councillors represented their classes and lay them in church on Remembrance Sunday! Very proud!



HIGHBURTON: UPDATE

We are now part of Enhance Multi Academy Trust. This is a new chapter for Highburton C.E First Academy and look forward to what the future brings.

It has been a very busy term this term and we have had many successes including the local pyramid athletics competition. On Tuesday 14th November, 20 of our Year 4 and 5 children took part in the Shelley Pyramid Sportshall Athletics Competition. We knew it would be a tough competition but all 20 athletes were up for the challenge. With so many different activities taking place including javelin, relay, chest push and long jump, it was very hard to know how we were doing during the competition. It came down to the last few races and we knew it must be close. We were really excited when it was announced that Highburton C.E First Academy had actually won the whole event!



We were extremely proud of the way that all our children behaved and encouraged each other throughout the competition. Quite a few of our children also knew participants from the other schools through sports or clubs they do out of school. It was lovely to see them encouraging each other too.



We look forward to other events throughout the year and hopefully will be just as successful.

ST HELEN'S: KS2 TRIP TO SEE OLIVER AT LEEDS PLAYHOUSE!



Our Key Stage 2 children on the evening of Thursday 30th November got the chance to witness the magic of theatre up close and personal. They were whisked away on a journey with Oliver Twist and his friends, experiencing the mesmerising music, incredible acting, and captivating storytelling that makes Oliver such a timeless classic. I am sure they were left inspired and in awe of the incredible talent on display.

They displayed impeccable behaviour and represented our school with such pride!



LEPTON: BISHOP SMITHA VISIT

We were lucky to have Bishop Smitha, the new Bishop of Huddersfield, visit school in October.

Along with some members of St. John's, she visited school and met with children to talk about the new school vision - 'Loving, Living and Learning' - and how it was being brought to life within school. It was a lovely afternoon that was enjoyed by all!



ST MICHAEL'S: RUGBY TOURNAMENT

St Michael's Mixed Rugby Team entered a Wakefield LA Multi-school Tournament. They won all of their matches in the heats to reach the final. They played an outstanding game in the final and won. The true reason for their success was the teamwork that they were able to tap into. We are very proud of the way they worked together and allowed each other to show off different talents.



ST MICHAEL'S: VISIT TO BRADFORD SYNAGOGUE

Our Year 6 children at St Michael's had a fantastic time at Bradford Synagogue as part of their RE Unit on Judaism. Children at our school are learning as much as we can about people from different Faiths that live in our community. Our knowledge and understanding of the diversity of religious beliefs prepares us for living in Modern Britain.



ST BOTOLPH'S: PING PONG PETE

We have been working hard on improving our lunchtimes for our children. Our children are loving their sessions with "Ping Pong Pete", where they have been learning the skills of table tennis (we have a few potential champions at St Bot's, I'm sure!)

Our lunch time chess club, ran by one of our Year 6 pupils is also a success – children are enjoying learning how to play chess.



ST HELEN'S: READING CLUB

Our Reading Club at St Helen's (an extra-curricular club on Monday afternoons) have become official judges for a non-fiction book awards! They will have meetings to discuss the books against set criteria and will send their final judgements later on!



ST BOTOLPH'S: REMEMBRANCE DAY

Nursery enjoyed their visit to the Cenotaph to place their poppies.



ST GILES: RUGBY LEAGUE

Several of our children performed at half time during the Tonga vs England Rugby League International. It was an amazing experience and something we will look to continue in the future.



LEPTON: CHRISTMAS SEASON



We are well into celebrating Christmas now and our fabulous choir sang for the whole of Lepton community at the Lepton Light's switch on event!

Despite the bitter weather, the children sang beautifully and brought smiles to the faces of all.

Our Reception class performed their excellent Nativity to their grown ups and our KS1 children will be performing their Nativity at St. John's Church later in the term.



ST HELEN'S PERFECT ATTENDANCE IN ACORN!



A huge well done to Acorn who are the first class to win 'Perfect Attendance' in the whole school!

They chose a Pizza Party as their reward - A delicious choice!



LEPTON: BIG SOUP SHARE

Gardening Club, led by the fantastic volunteer of Mr. Pegg, hosted their annual Big Soup Share this term. Members of the local community came and enjoyed the homemade soup, prepared using their very own garden produce.



Not only did they enjoy the tasty soup, they were waited on hand and foot by the gardeners. They then listened to two fabulous speeches about how to keep your garden plants healthy and well. It was a fabulous afternoon!

ALL SAINTS: SHARING IS CARING BANK

At Featherstone All Saints, the Worship Council organised a non-uniform day that successfully raised £233.10 for the Featherstone Sharing is Caring Bank.

The funds were utilized to purchase gifts for the children of Featherstone, ensuring they would have something special to receive on Christmas Eve.



ALL SAINTS: READING AMBASSADORS



After 58 applications were submitted to be a reading ambassador from children in Year 2 to Year 6, we have successfully recruited 14 ambitious children for this exciting new role who are ready to promote a love of reading across the whole school.



CHRIST CHURCH: CHRISTMAS FAYRE



The Christmas Fayre was a resounding success on Friday 8th December - we raised a staggering £750.

The parents and children had a fabulous time. It was the first fayre for 5 years and it won't be the last!

Santa and his two elves got us all in the Christmas spirit.



CHRIST CHURCH: PUDSEY BEAR CAME TO VISIT

Pudsey Bear came to visit the children at Christ Church Academy on Thursday 16th November.

The children loved seeing him and as a school we raised an impressive £222.



Thank you to everyone for their continued support this term.

We hope you have an enjoyable Christmas
and a happy and healthy 2024.



SOCIAL MEDIA ACROSS THE TRUST

