

# Spring Gallery



## Please contact us!

If you are able to partner with us further in any of our community work, please do not hesitate to contact us, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Wishing you all a relaxing and restful Easter break!

Alison Weir  
Headteacher



Dear friends

I write at the end of another busy term at Howard Community Academy. Our children continue to delight as we watch them grow through their learning journeys with us. As ever we are grateful for the support from our community partners and our wonderful parent community who support our children in so many ways. A particular thank you to our PTA who are working tirelessly to fundraise and supplement our children's learning experience through funding for the additional extras.

At Howard Community Academy, we truly believe that a strong community is built through nurturing relationships, open communication and collaboration. By working together – as parents, staff and pupils– we can create a supportive environment where every child feels valued and empowered to reach their full potential. We look forward to continuing to strengthen these bonds and supporting one another in the months ahead.

Please enjoy reading our newsletter which touches on just a few aspects of the work here at our school. If you are interested in partnering further with us, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards  
Alison Weir  
Headteacher

## Aspiration: Reaching for the Stars

**At Howard, we firmly believe that aspiration is the key to unlocking every student's potential. Aspiration inspires students to dream big, work hard, and aim for greatness in all they do. This term has been a true reflection of that belief, with a range of exciting opportunities that have allowed our students to shine and showcase their incredible talents.**

### Red Nose Day Talent Show

One of the highlights of this month was our bi-annual Talent Show, held in support of Red Nose Day. Our children demonstrated their creativity as they performed in front of an excited audience as part of our celebrations for Comic Relief. From singing and dancing to comedy sketches and magic tricks, the event was a celebration of the diverse talents within our school community. Well done to everyone who participated, standing up on stage and contributed to such a fun and meaningful event!

### Tiny Plays, Big Ideas with Theatre Royal

Our Year 6 students have been working closely with Theatre Royal as part of the Tiny Plays, Big Ideas playwriting project. This exciting initiative gives students the opportunity to explore the art of storytelling and create their own plays. Over the course of the project, the students have worked with professional playwrights and actors, developing their ideas and learning new skills in drama and writing. The result? A set of fantastic plays that reflect the creativity and imagination of our Year 6 cohort. We are incredibly proud of their hard work and Year 6 were privileged to see some of their work performed on stage at the Theatre Royal.

### Young Voices Concert at the O2

A group of our Year 5 and 6 students had the unforgettable experience of performing at the O2 Arena as part of the Young Voices concert. This spectacular event brought together thousands of children from across the country to sing in a massive choir. Our students rehearsed for months, learning a wide variety of songs, and their voices sounded fantastic in the iconic venue. The event was a powerful reminder of the joy of music and the sense of community it can create.



# Experience

At Howard, we believe that learning is not confined to the classroom – it extends into every experience, big or small, that enriches our children's growth and development. This term has been filled with exciting activities that have allowed our students to explore new skills, follow their passions, and create lasting memories. From sports tournaments to creative workshops, the range of experiences has been inspiring.

## Futsal Sports Tournament

Our Year 5/6 recently participated in a Futsal sports tournament with Bury Sports Partnership, where our students showed great teamwork, sportsmanship and determination on the court. Futsal, a fast-paced version of football played indoors, requires quick thinking and skilful ball control. Our team displayed impressive determination, competing with schools from across the town. Whether they were on the pitch or cheering from the sidelines, our students demonstrated the spirit of collaboration and the importance of resilience, making us incredibly proud.

## Forest School

Outdoors, our Forest School sessions have continued to be a highlight for many of our pupils. Forest School offers a unique opportunity for children to connect with nature, explore the environment, and develop a range of practical skills. This term, our students took part in activities such as den building, nature walks, and creative outdoor arts. The sessions encourage



Forest Schools

independence, problem-solving, and teamwork, all while fostering a deep appreciation for the natural world. Forest School provides the perfect balance of learning and adventure!

## Reading Cafes

In our ongoing efforts to encourage a love of reading, we've held several Reading Cafes this term. These events bring pupils, teachers, and parents together in a relaxed, cafe-style setting, where everyone can enjoy books, share stories, and engage in lively discussions. It's wonderful to see so many pupils excited to share their favourite books and hear about the ones that others are enjoying.

## Art Workshops

Creativity has been flourishing in our recent art workshops, where our children have had the chance to explore different mediums and techniques with parents or carers alongside. Whether it's painting, clay or puppet making, the workshops provide an opportunity for children to express themselves artistically. These sessions encourage experimentation, self-expression, and the joy of making something unique.

## Reception and year 1 Pirate Session

Reception & Year 1 took part in a Pirate experience session to support their English learning. They created their own pirate ship, learnt pirate phrases and wrote messages in bottles!

**At our school, we believe that every experience plays a crucial role in shaping our students into well-rounded, curious and confident individuals. These opportunities outside the classroom give our students the chance to discover new passions, build important life skills, and create lasting memories that will stay with them for years to come.**



# Nurturing

At Howard, we recognise that nurturing a strong, supportive community is at the heart of fostering well-being and success for our children. We understand that the school journey is not just about the children – it's about the collective effort of parents, teachers, and the wider community working together to create an environment where every child can thrive. This term, we've had the pleasure of continuing to strengthen our school community through various initiatives that bring parents, staff, and students together.

## Parent-School Partnership Through Parents' Evenings

One of the cornerstones of our strong school community is the relationship we build with parents, and this has been evident in our recent Parents' Evenings. These events provide an invaluable opportunity for parents to meet with teachers, discuss their child's progress, and share insights into how we can work together to support each pupil's development. These conversations are vital in our approach to nurturing each child's academic and personal growth. We are grateful for the strong turnout, overwhelmingly positive feedback and the ongoing partnership between home and school.



## Weekly Coffee and Catch-Up

We know how important it is for parents to feel supported, especially when it comes to navigating any challenges their

child might face. That's why our weekly Coffee and Catch-Up sessions with Leanne, our student social worker continue to be such a valuable resource for families. These informal sessions provide parents with a safe space to discuss any concerns, ask questions, and get advice on supporting their child's well-being. It's a wonderful opportunity to build relationships and gain practical insights into supporting our children at home and in school.

## International Parent Coffee and Catch-Up

In our increasingly diverse school community, it's important to create spaces where parents from all backgrounds feel welcome and included. Our International Parent Coffee and Catch-Up sessions are designed to bring together parents from different cultures to share experiences, discuss any challenges they might face, and foster a sense of belonging. These sessions have been a fantastic way to celebrate the richness of our school community and ensure that all parents have a platform to be heard and supported. Everyone is welcome!

