

NEWSLETTER

9th January 2026

A Message From Mrs Weir

Welcome back to a new term! Despite the sub-zero temperatures and the snow there were lots of happy smiles on Tuesday as the children arrived back in school which warmed our hearts.

We started off our week with one of our wellbeing days when the children in each class think again about the characteristic they are learning about as part of our wellbeing curriculum while resetting expectations for the term ahead.

Music is such an important part of life and is around us everywhere. We experienced a real treat on Thursday when Suffolk County Music service teachers joined us in assembly to give a short live performance. We learned about a variety of different instruments from electric bass guitar to flute. Did you know that the bow of a cello is made from hair from the tails of horses? Mrs Blyth, our brass teacher, played her French horn as well as her own home made horn made from garden hose and a kitchen funnel! Our music teachers played a variety of tunes for us including the Harry Potter theme tune and Blackbird by John Lennon. We are so delighted to offer our year 3 and 4 children the opportunity to learn the ukelele this year and our year 5 children to learn a brass instrument and we hope it sparks a lifelong love of music.

Our Year 6 continue to prepare for the Young Voices concert in a few weeks times where they will perform with schools from all over the country. Do encourage them to keep practising those songs at home.

Otter class had their reading café this week and we look forward to welcoming you all this term to join your children at their reading café. See below for the upcoming dates.

Mrs Weir



Next week at Howard....

Tuesday 15th January– Year 5 swimming starts

Wednesday 16th January– Year 4 visit to Skills Escalator Day at West Suffolk College

Wednesday 16th January at 1.30pm– Families Together programme with Larissa starts

Thursday 17th January at 9am– Ladybird reading café

Headteacher Awards



I am pleased to announced the following pupils have received a Headteacher award. Congratulations!

Maya R

Levi G

Iyla J

Bobbie A

Jeremy M

Scarlet-Rose L

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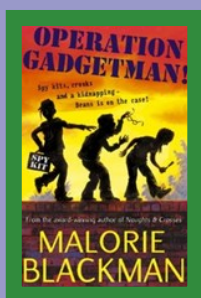
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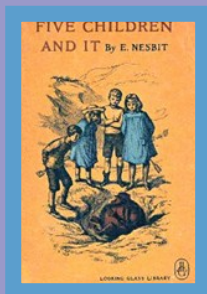
Looking for a good read?



Meerkat Mail
Emily Gravett



Operation Gadgetman
Malorie Blackman



Five Children and It
E Nesbit

Star of the Week

Mrs Walker for helping out with technology!



Attendance

This week average attendance was 92.6%. It has been lovely to see you all. The government expectation is that children are in school for at least 96% of the school year to help them learn. Do let us know if we can help in any way.

Please note that we are unable to authorise term time holidays according to government guidelines and penalty fines apply.

SEND News from Ms Whiting

This week I would like to remind you of the next PINS workshops that is being held next week on Tuesday 13th January @ 1.45-3.15. If your child is neurodiverse or you believe they are showing neurodiverse tendencies I would urge you to sign up at the office.

The second workshop is about Learning and Executive Functioning: How parents, carers and school staff can work together to support neurodivergent children. Please see the attached flier.

I do hope to see as many of you as possible there.

How to Contact Us

If you need help with advice on how to get online, resources to help your child learn at home or any other support we are here to help. Please speak to a member of staff or phone the school office on 01284 766278. Class teachers can be contacted via class emails e.g. otter@howardprimary.org for Otter class.

Dates for your diary

- 14.1.26 Y4 to Skills Escalator day
- 15.1.26 9am Ladybird reading café
- 21.1.26 Y6 to Young Voices
- 22.1.26 Y6 to Skills Escalator day
- 22.1.26 9am Owl and 2.30pm Badger reading café
- 26.1.26 2.30pm Kingfisher reading café
- 4.2.25 Owl class assembly

Howard is fabulous!



Keep up to date with news about our learning in school, events and activities as they happen, and some useful links for activities to complete at home, by following us on our social media page:



<https://www.facebook.com/HowardCAcademy>

@HowardAcademy

National Domestic Abuse helpline: 0808 2000 247



Call: 0808 802 6666 Text: 0737 404 282
Email: familyline@family-action.org.uk

Parent workshops in 2026



PINS workshops

Tuesday 6th January 1.45-3.15- Workshop 1: Neurodevelopmental Diversity: what every school and/ carer needs to know

Tuesday 13th January 1.45-3.15- Workshop 2: Learning and Executive Functioning: How parents, carers and school staff can work together to support neurodivergent children

Tuesday 20th January 1.45-3.15- Workshop 3: Emotional regulation: How to support Neurodivergent children with emotional processing and anxiety. This will include information on how sensory issues may impact in this area

Tuesday 3rd February 1.45-3.15- Workshop 4: Neurodevelopmental Diversity: Managing caregiver stress. Research suggests that parents/carers and caregivers of neurodivergent children experience greater stress than those of neurotypical children and young people. This workshop explores the reasons for this and considers some ways to manage caregiver stress and support your own wellbeing as parents/carers and school staff

Hamish and Milo Families Together

We are excited to invite you to join our new Hamish & Milo Families Together Programme.



Hamish & Milo programmes help children develop social and emotional literacy skills, become more self-confident and resilient, so they feel happier, less anxious, more able to self-regulate to engage in learning and fulfil their potential.

This is a ten week programme that focuses on each of the Hamish & Milo emotion themes and gives family members the opportunity to find out more about the whole programme and take part in special activities with your child for part of each session. Each week focuses on a different emotion theme and provides insight, opportunities for discussion and time to share experiences.

The ten themes are:

- Week 1 - Amazing me (self-esteem, self-worth and confidence)
- Week 2 - Calm me (anxiety)
- Week 3 - Resilient me (resilience)
- Week 4 - Celebrating me (diversity and inclusion)
- Week 5 - Exploding me (strong emotions and anger)
- Week 6 - Finding me (sadness)
- Week 7 - My friends & Me (friendships)
- Week 8 - Actions, words & me (conflict resolution)
- Week 9 - Memories & me (loss, bereavement and grief)
- Week 10 - New Beginnings & me (changes and transitions)



The sessions will be held on Wednesdays at 1:30pm in the school's community room. Starting from 14th January onwards.

If you would like to take part, please confirm your place with the school office, either in person or by email.