

Autumn 1

Smawthorne Henry Moore Academy Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy and exciting start to the school year it has been! The children have settled brilliantly into their new classes, and we have been working hard to establish routines and embed our new behaviour policy. This is built around our three simple but powerful rules — Ready, Respectful and Safe — which underpin everything we do across the school.

We have also enjoyed a range of new opportunities this half term. Our new sports partners, ACES, have been running fantastic after-school clubs, and we've introduced yoga sessions for children in Years 2, 3 and 5. After the half-term break, these activities will rotate to Giraffes, Penguins and Pumas classes — a separate letter will be sent to the year groups involved with more information.

In Early Years, we've had a wonderful start to the term with the opening of our brand-new Rainbow Room provision, designed to support all children in having a positive and successful start to their schooling. Our Reception learning environment has also undergone an exciting transformation, which we're delighted to share more about later in this newsletter.

A real highlight for me this term has been lunchtimes. We've developed our provision to offer more play opportunities, and it's been a joy to see the children enjoying active, happy and sociable breaks together. We have also introduced Lunchtime Link rewards and our extra special Golden Table!

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our parents for your patience and support while the building works on our Year 3 and 4 side continue — your understanding has been greatly appreciated.

As we look ahead to the second half of the Autumn Term, we're excited to be marking Anti-Bullying Week and, of course, beginning to prepare for the festive season. Thank you for your continued support — it's been a wonderful start to the year, and we're looking forward to all that is to come!

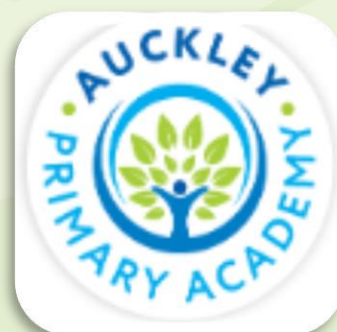
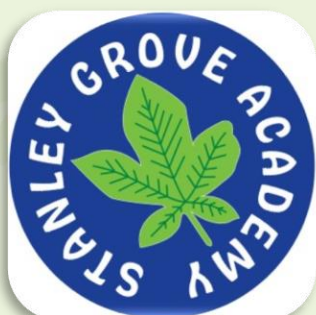
Warm regards, Mrs Dixon



#TheSmawthorneExperience

News from our Accomplish Family

We continue to value the excellent support provided by the Accomplish Trust as we strengthen and refine our systems across the school. The Trust offers us clear guidance, priorities and professional expertise to help drive school improvement, with our primary focus this year on “doing the basics brilliantly.” This includes further developing our behaviour policy and core curriculum to ensure consistency and excellence in everything we do. We are also delighted to share that Auckley Academy in Doncaster has recently joined the Accomplish family of schools — we look forward to working collaboratively with our new partner on this exciting journey. In addition, Accomplish continue to deliver extensive training and professional development opportunities to a wide network of schools through both their training offer and the Jerry Clay English Hub. Their base, the Accomplishing Great Things Centre, is proudly located right here in Castleford’s Lock Lane area — a true hub for collaboration, learning and improvement.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Attendance:

Our attendance has taken a dip this year, with a number of odd days of absence, lateness, and holidays affecting our overall figures. We kindly ask that families continue to support the school in ensuring that every child's attendance is as strong as possible, as children who are absent cannot fully benefit from the excellent educational opportunities we provide.

Attendance summaries for each child will be sent out straight after half term, and we are hoping to see an improvement next term.

This year, we have been focusing on rapidly improving attendance. Our current figure stands at **93.86%**, and **our school target is above 96%**, which we are striving to achieve! Many children have already been enjoying our attendance jars – every time a class achieves 100% attendance for the day, a star is added to the jar. Once it's full, the class gets to choose a reward from the menu!

Please continue to support us by making sure your child attends school wherever possible.

Remember, **attendance below 90% is considered persistently absent**. We are excited to see which two classes will win pizza parties at the end of the year, and who will enjoy a visit from the ice cream van for achieving 100% attendance for the full year!

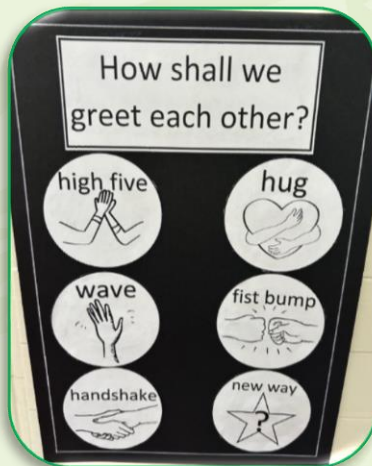


Yearly Attendance		
Year:	Attendance:	Difference to 96% target:
2023-2024	92.38	3.62
2024-2025	93.86	2.14
2025-2026 so far!	93.12	2.88

2025-2026 Attendance Incentives		
Attendance achievement:	Reward/Incentive:	
100% Attendance for the term	Certificate and badge	
100% Attendance for the full year	Certificate, badge and ice-cream van playtime	
96% and above for the term	Raffle ticket for a family voucher	
96% and above for the term	Raffle ticket to win a scooter	
Class 96% and above for the week	Roll of the dice in assembly Classopoly game	
Most money in class Classopoly envelope	Pizza party	
Class 100% attendance for the week	Chocolate fountain treat as a class	
Winning class attendance each week	Attendance teddy – Star and Ace	
100% class attendance for the day	Add a star in the Star Jar, collect a full jar for a treat from the menu!	



Our School Rules



We are really proud of our new behaviour system, which is helping us to create a calm, positive and respectful learning environment across the school. Our three school rules – Be Ready, Respectful and Safe – continue to guide everything we do. We are working hard to embed a culture of positive reinforcement through our Recognition Boards, where children are celebrated for consistently doing the right thing and making good choices. Alongside this, we have introduced a new House Points system, recognising pupils for their academic effort, work ethic and focus on learning. This term, congratulations go to the Yellow House, who have earned the most points! They will enjoy their well-deserved treat after half term, when we'll reset the scores and begin the next friendly competition.

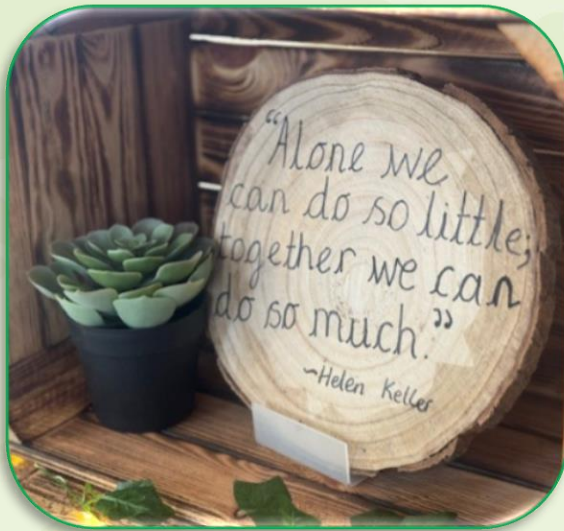


Our School Rules

Be Ready
Be Respectful
Be Safe



Lunchtime Links and Play!



At lunchtime, we have been working hard to develop our timetable and activity offer to ensure this important part of the day is enjoyable, purposeful and sociable. Lunchtime is a key opportunity for children to build friendships and practise important life skills, so we have made a number of adjustments to help everyone make the most of this time. Our focus has been on promoting good table manners, kindness, social skills and care for others.



We have also introduced a new and exciting initiative called "Lunchtime Links." This is a whole-school paperchain, built collectively from Reception to Year 6, with each link representing a moment of exceptional manners, respect or safe behaviour. Our aim is to reach 500 links to earn a special whole-school treat. We're thrilled to share that the children achieved this target last week, and celebrated with an extra playtime, music and a biscuit treat! The chain has now started again, and we're already working together to reach our next 500-link goal.



Golden Table

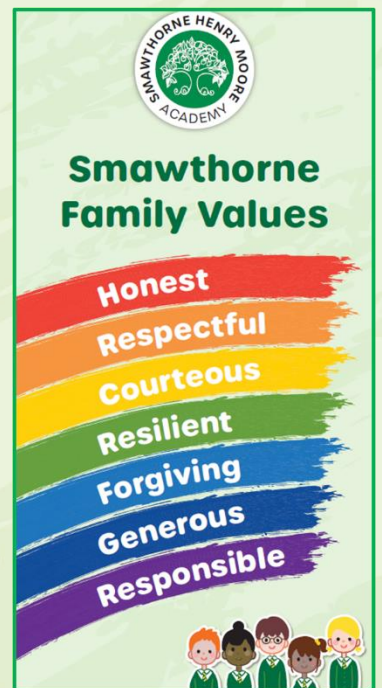


In addition to our Lunchtime Links initiative, we have also introduced our very special Golden Table. Each Friday, one child from every class is selected to sit at the Golden Table and is invited to choose a friend to join them for lunch. This is a lovely way to celebrate children who consistently demonstrate kindness, respect, and excellent manners throughout the week. The Golden Table is beautifully set and creates a real sense of pride and excitement among the children. Here are just some of the wonderful pupils who have been chosen so far this year — congratulations to all of them!



Introducing our brand new Celebration Assemblies

Our Celebration Assemblies have been a wonderful addition to our school week. Each Friday, parents and carers are invited to join us in celebrating our Star of the Week pupils and hear about the fantastic reasons behind their selection. During the assembly, teachers share each child's achievements, character strengths, and learning journey so far this year, making it a truly special moment for everyone involved. The feedback from parents has been extremely positive, and it's been lovely to see so many of you joining us to celebrate our children's successes. We look forward to continuing to welcome families into this experience throughout the year. Thank you, as always, for your patience and understanding — as we can only choose one child per class each week, it may take a little time before every child has their turn to shine!

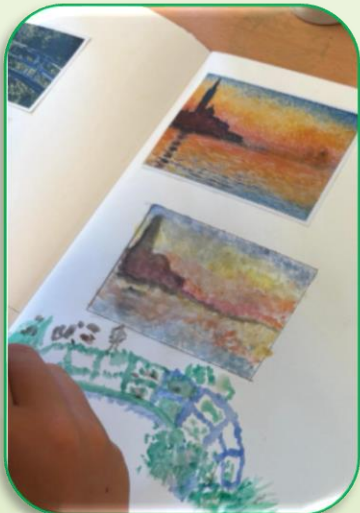


#TheSmawthorneExperience

Art development



Creativity is a vital part of young children's development, fostering imagination, problem-solving skills, and self-expression. Recognising its importance, we have worked closely with our art specialist, Miss Bairstow, to enhance our art curriculum offer. Through her expertise, we have introduced a range of engaging and skill-building opportunities that encourage children to explore different materials, techniques, and artistic styles. Miss Bairstow's guidance has helped to ensure that our art curriculum not only supports creativity but also builds confidence and a deep appreciation for the arts from an early age. We have now started a whole school celebration of art at SHMA, which will develop over the year.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Year 6 visit to Eden Camp

Our Year 6 children had a fantastic visit to Eden Camp this term, deepening their understanding of World War II. The trip brought their classroom learning to life as they explored the museum's immersive exhibits and handled real historical artefacts. The children were incredibly engaged throughout the day, asking thoughtful questions and making excellent connections to their work in school. We were very proud of how beautifully they behaved and represented our school — a real credit to themselves and their teachers.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Our Yoga Sessions

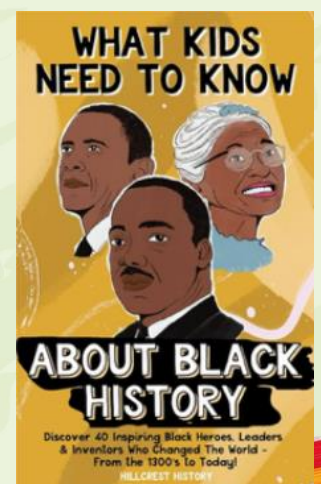
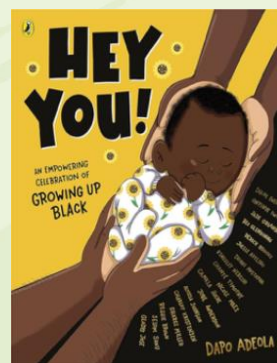
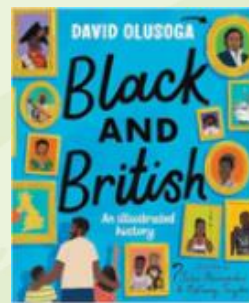
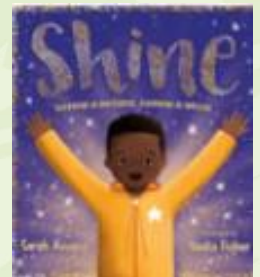
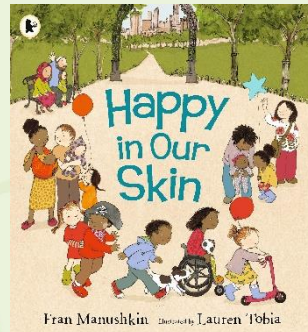
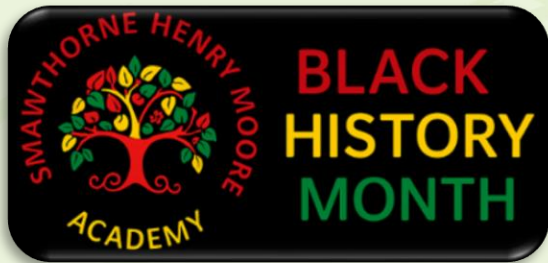
We are excited to share that we have introduced yoga into our school timetable! Children in Year 2, Year 3, and Year 5 will be enjoying half-termly sessions, exploring different poses, breathing techniques, and relaxation exercises. Yoga is a wonderful way for children to develop balance, flexibility, and coordination, while also supporting their mental wellbeing. It encourages mindfulness, focus, and self-regulation, helping children to manage stress and build resilience. In addition, yoga promotes confidence, body awareness, and teamwork, making it a valuable and enjoyable addition to our school day.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Marking Black History Month at SHMA

At SHMA, we have been proud to mark Black History Month by celebrating the key achievements of significant individuals who have shaped history. Across the school, children have learned about Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King Jr. and Nelson Mandela, exploring their courage, leadership and lasting impact on equality and justice. Our pupils can now confidently talk about The Protected Characteristics and The Equality Act (2010) as we continue to learn that everyone is equal and deserves respect. A real highlight of our learning was sharing the story 'Happy in My Skin', which inspired wonderful discussions about how amazing our skin is — from dimples to fingerprints, from keeping our insides in to stretching as we grow taller! It really made us stop and think about how unique and special each one of us truly is.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Embedding our Values through assemblies



Smawthorne Henry Moore Academy

Our Family Values

Learning Through the Inspirational Work of Others

Honest **Respectful** **Courteous** **Resilient** **Forgiving** **Generous** **Responsible**



We learn about inspirational people to help us understand our school values. They are people who demonstrate our values through their behaviour and attitudes.

Honest- We tell the truth

Respectful- We look after each other

Courteous- We are kind and thankful

Resilient- We never give up

Forgiving- We don't hold grudges

Generous- We share with each other



Our school values underpin everything that we do at SHMA, guiding how we learn, play, and grow together. We make sure these values are taught explicitly through meaningful assemblies and are consistently referenced across the curriculum. This year, we have planned a programme to develop and explore these values throughout each term. In Autumn 1, our focus was on resilience, inspiring the children through the stories of Rosa Parks and the Lionesses, learning how courage, determination, and perseverance can help us overcome challenges.



Term	Value	Description	Inspirational Figures:	Photo/Care Icons to support learning:
Autumn 1	Resilient	We never give up.	Rosa Parks , called "the mother of the civil rights movement," Rosa Parks invigorated the struggle for racial equality when she refused to give up her bus seat to a white man in Montgomery, Alabama. Parks' arrest on December 1, 1955, launched the Montgomery Bus Boycott by 17,000 black citizens. England Women's Football Team . The Lionesses, have played in the FIFA Women's World Cup six times. They reached the quarter-finals in 1996, 2007, and 2015. They finished fourth in 2015 and third in 2019. Their best result was being runners-up in 2023. The Lionesses are European champions. Sarina Wiegman's team made history in Brazil, becoming the first England senior team to win a tournament overseas with victory over Spain in the UEFA Women's EURO 2022 Final.	
Autumn 2	Responsible	We are dependable and work to keep our agreed values.	Leah Constantine , Baron Constantine (21 September 1901 – 1 July 1971) was a Trinidadian cricketer, lawyer and politician who served as Trinidad and Tobago's High Commissioner to the United Kingdom and became the UK's first black peer. Malala Yousafzai is known across the world for her bravery, resilience and hope in the face of terrifying adversity. From playing in the Swat Valley in Pakistan to making speeches at the United Nations, she has become an inspiration for people fighting for justice.	
Spring 1	Honest and Respectful	We tell the truth. We look after each other.	Wangari Maathai was the first African woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize. She was also the first female scholar from East and Central Africa to take a doctorate (in biology), and the first female professor ever in her home country of Kenya. Queen Elizabeth II spent her life serving others and showing respect to people from many different cultures, countries, and communities. Queen Elizabeth showed that being a leader doesn't mean being the loudest – it means being respectful, wise, and caring. She worked hard for her country every day of her life and always tried to bring people together. She met and worked with leaders from all over the world – always showing good manners and fairness.	

Spring 2	Forgiving	We don't hold a grudge.	Nelson Mandela fought against the system of apartheid in South Africa and for the establishment of a multiracial democracy. He advocated for racial equality, human dignity, and equal access to justice for all South Africans. Nelson Mandela was initially jailed for inciting a strike and for leaving the country without a valid passport in 1962. After spending 27 years in prison for standing up against unfair laws in South Africa, he forgave the people who locked him up. Instead of seeking revenge, he worked for peace and unity and became the country's first black president. Martin Luther King Jr. is renowned for his leadership in the American Civil Rights Movement, advocating for equality and justice for African Americans through nonviolent means. He is particularly famous for his powerful speeches, including the iconic "I Have a Dream" speech, and for leading pivotal events like the Montgomery Bus Boycott.	
Summer 1	Courteous	We are kind and thankful.	Hollie Benjamin is particularly concerned with the plight of children, their human rights, education and welfare throughout the world. She created her role model initiative "Touching Success" to motivate, raise aspirations and encourage social mobility amongst disadvantaged children. Gréta Thunberg is a young girl who cares deeply about the planet and encourages people to protect the Earth from pollution and climate change. Gréta Thunberg is a girl from Sweden who became world-famous for speaking up about climate change — that means the Earth is getting warmer and the weather is changing in dangerous ways, like more floods, fires, and melting ice.	
Summer 2	Generous	We share with others.	Tererai Trent is one of today's most internationally recognized voices for quality education and women's empowerment. Tererai, raised in rural Zimbabwe under restrictive cultural norms, taught herself to read and write despite being denied formal education. Inspired by a chance encounter and her mother's support, she buried her dreams of studying in America in a tin can, setting herself on a path to transform her life. David Attenborough , a renowned broadcaster and naturalist, has a fascinating career. He tells amazing stories about animals, nature, and the planet. He has made lots of TV shows that help people learn about the world around them — from tiny insects to huge whales! He travels to jungles, oceans, deserts, and even the Arctic to show us the incredible animals that live there and how they survive. His voice is calm and kind, and he explains things in a way that's easy to understand. David cares a lot about helping the Earth. He teaches us why we need to protect animals and take care of nature, so the planet stays healthy for people and animals in the future.	



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Reception 2026 Open Evenings



Reception Open Evening

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to invite you to our Open Evening for families considering a Reception place for September 2026.

Join us to discover what makes our Academy such a happy, inspiring, and nurturing place for children to learn and grow. During the evening, you will have the opportunity to:

- Meet our dedicated teaching staff and leadership team
- Explore our classrooms and learning environments
- Learn about our curriculum and approach to early years education
- Hear about the support and enrichment opportunities available for every child

Date: **Monday 3rd November and Monday 17th November**

Time: 4:00 – 5:30

Location: Smawthorne Henry Moore Academy, Ashton Road, Castleford, WF10 5AX

We warmly welcome you to come and experience our vibrant school community first-hand. If you wish to book your place, please email admin@smawthorneprimary.org or contact the school office on 01977 558395. We look forward to welcoming you so that you can see what makes our Academy such a special place to start your child's learning journey.

We look forward to meeting you!

Warm regards, Mrs Dixon, Headteacher



#TheSmawthorneExperience

#TheSmawthorneExperience

Why is reading so important?

Reading is absolutely fundamental in primary schools because it underpins every aspect of learning and development. Here are the key reasons why it's so important:

- Builds essential literacy skills – Reading helps children develop vocabulary, spelling, grammar, and comprehension, which are the foundation for all other learning.
- Supports learning across the curriculum – Whether it's understanding a maths problem, following a science investigation, or exploring history, strong reading skills help children access and engage with every subject.
- Develops imagination and creativity – Through stories, children are transported to new worlds, ideas, and experiences, fostering curiosity and creative thinking.
- Improves focus and empathy – Reading encourages children to concentrate for sustained periods and helps them see life through different perspectives, building empathy and emotional understanding.
- Boosts confidence and independence – As children become fluent readers, they gain confidence in expressing themselves, both in writing and speech.
- Lays the groundwork for future success – Research consistently shows that children who enjoy reading and read regularly perform better academically and are more likely to achieve later in life.

In essence, reading opens doors – to knowledge, imagination, and opportunity. That's why primary schools place such emphasis on nurturing a love of reading from the very start.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Safe travels



As always, just a polite reminder to say please do not park on the yellow lines out the front of school, there are new signs to remind you of this. Thank you for working together to keep all children safe.



Smoke and Vape free school

Please remember not to smoke or vape around our children, school site, entrances and pavements. We were the first smoke free school in Wakefield but we need your help to continue making smoking and vaping invisible to our children!

Thank you in advance for supporting this mission.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Our children have embraced the new season

This term, we have been embracing all things Autumn across our Early Years and Key Stage 1 classes! The children have loved exploring the changes in the season through a range of exciting, hands-on activities. In Preschool, the children enjoyed making pumpkin soup, while our Nursery children went on an Autumn learning walk to observe the world around them. Across the school grounds, children have been busy collecting colourful leaves, creating wonderful leaf kebabs and other imaginative natural artwork. Many have even continued their learning at home, producing beautiful seasonal art and writing about what happens in Autumn, proudly bringing in their work to share. We've also been amazed by the hundreds of conkers and acorns collected and brought in for everyone to enjoy! We have been unbelievably impressed with the children's enthusiasm, curiosity, and growing understanding of this beautiful season.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Year 3 visit Murton Park



Year 3 recently enjoyed an exciting and educational visit to Murton Park, linked to their history topic Stone Age to Iron Age. The trip brought their learning to life as they explored what life was like in a prehistoric village. The children discovered that Stone Age people were hunter-gatherers who relied on their skills and resourcefulness to survive. They particularly enjoyed pretending to be hunters with spears in search of woolly mammoths and taking part in hands-on activities such as weaving, making clay pots, and grinding wheat into flour. It was a memorable day that deepened their understanding of early human life and sparked great enthusiasm for their history topic.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Introducing our Student Leadership Team :

Student leaders play a vital role in our school, helping to shape our community and promote our values of respect, kindness, and responsibility. At SHMA, we are proud to have a wide range of student leadership opportunities, including our Head Girl and Head Boy, Deputy Head Girl and Deputy Head Boy, House Captains, Student Council, Eco-Warriors, Friendship Ambassadors, Happiness Heroes, Sports Leaders, Play Leaders, and Lunchtime Helpers. These roles allow children to develop important life skills, such as teamwork, communication, and leadership, while making a real difference to school life. Through their contributions, our student leaders help to ensure that SHMA is a happy, supportive, and thriving environment for everyone.



Head Girl, Faith



Deputy Head Girl, Fran



Head Boy, Jack



Deputy Head Boy, Dion

Our Student Councillors



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Year 5 visit to Magna Science Museum;

Year 5 began their day with a fantastic workshop led by James, who explained how rockets work and the different forces involved. The children were captivated by the experiments, especially when they had the chance to take part, and they thoroughly enjoyed launching bottle rockets.

They then explored the Wind and Fire Pavilions, marvelling at “The Big Melt”, the fire tornado, and the challenge of catching scarves in the wind tunnels. A few enthusiastic junior photographers even captured some of the fun along the way!

The final stops of the day were the Earth and Water Pavilions. Year 5 loved investigating the interactive exhibits in the Earth Pavilion, and the Water Pavilion proved a firm favourite, even though many left a little wet from all the hands-on exploration.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Our assembly learning about Hinduism:

This half term, Key Stage 2 have been learning about religious symbols and Hinduism. We have learnt about Diwali celebration, places of worship, traditional clothing, Hindu diet and the history of Hinduism. This supports our British Values learning around Respect and Tolerance for different faiths and beliefs.

I wonder if you show the religious symbols below, if your child can name all six?



Our PCSO visit during Hate Crime Week:



This term, PCSO Sarah visited our school to talk to the children about the importance of being kind to one another. She reinforced our key message that repeatedly being unkind on purpose is considered bullying, helping the children to understand the difference between unkind behaviour and bullying, and how to respond appropriately. It was a valuable session that supported our ongoing work around respect, kindness, and positive relationships in school.

Several Times On Purpose

Start Telling Other People

You must tell someone at school so we can help you!!!



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Diamond Dash Times tables Challenges:

This term, we have introduced our exciting new challenge – Diamond Dash! Created by an Accomplish academy, this motivational system is already proving a big hit with the children, who are loving their new challenge and showing great enthusiasm to improve their times tables knowledge. At Smawthorne Henry Moore Academy, children work their way through a series of awards, progressing at their own pace throughout their time with us. There are eight levels available, carefully matched to National Curriculum expectations, and designed to include and motivate every child, regardless of year group.

We strongly believe that repetition of times tables is crucial for building fluency and confidence, and we encourage all children to practise regularly at home to help them prepare for their next Diamond Dash challenge. Don't forget, Times table Rockstars is another fun and engaging way to practise — we'll continue to set regular competitions to keep the excitement going! Each level of Diamond Dash is timed (apart from Topaz and Emerald), and children can earn certificates for every award they achieve, with special badges for Bronze, Silver, and Gold challenges.

Gold

- A teacher on panel taking turns to ask Qs.
- 2 Minutes on the clock. All correct answers and no hesitation.
- All times tables and division facts up to (and including) 12×12 .
- Square numbers and square roots.

Gold Award certificate and badge to be given. Child put forward to the Diamond Dash.

Silver

- All times tables 12×12 on a multiplication grid.
- Division facts on reverse of grid including square roots and square numbers.
- Timed: 8 minutes.
- All correct answers within time.

Silver Award certificate and badge to be given.

Bronze

- 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 times tables on a multiplication grid.
- Division facts on reverse of grid including square roots and square numbers.
- Timed: 7 minutes.
- All correct answers within time.

Bronze Award certificate and badge to be given.

Sapphire

- 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11 times tables in written form.
- Division facts on reverse.
- Timed: 6 minutes.
- All correct answers within time.

Sapphire Award certificate to be given.

Ruby

- 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 times tables in written form.
- Division facts on reverse.
- Timed: 5 minutes.
- All correct answers within time.

Ruby Award certificate to be given.

Pearl

- 2, 5 and 10 times tables in written form.
- Division facts on reverse.
- Timed: 5 minutes.
- All correct answers within time.

Pearl Award certificate to be given.

Emerald

- 2, 5 and 10 times tables in written form ie. $7 \times 2 =$
- Times tables can be sat individually, but all three are needed to complete the award.
- Not timed, but teacher discretion to decide whether the children are competent enough to receive the award.
- All correct answers.

Emerald Award certificate to be given.

Topaz

- Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s to the 10th number in the sequence ie. In 2s to 20.
- Each one can be taken at a separate time, but competency in all three is required to complete the award.

Topaz Award certificate to be given.



The development of our Early Years classrooms:

Over the past six months, we have transformed our Early Years classrooms into vibrant, holistic learning environments that are rich in opportunities for our youngest learners to explore, create and thrive. The spaces have been thoughtfully redesigned to promote curiosity, independence and a love of learning through play and discovery. From enhanced role-play areas to carefully planned provision that supports all areas of development, the transformation has truly brought our Early Years to life. Our next exciting step is to extend this transformation to our outdoor environment, ensuring that the same high-quality, inspiring opportunities continue beyond the classroom walls.

BEFORE:



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Celebrating our Earl Years development:

AFTER:



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Rainbow Room Resource:

This term, we have proudly created a new Early Years SEND resource within our Rainbow Room, and it has already proved to be wonderfully successful. The provision is designed to give all children the very best start to their education, ensuring that individual needs are met through tailored support, nurturing relationships, and engaging learning opportunities. The Rainbow Room has quickly become a calm, inclusive space where children can thrive, build confidence, and develop the essential skills they need for a happy and successful start to school life.

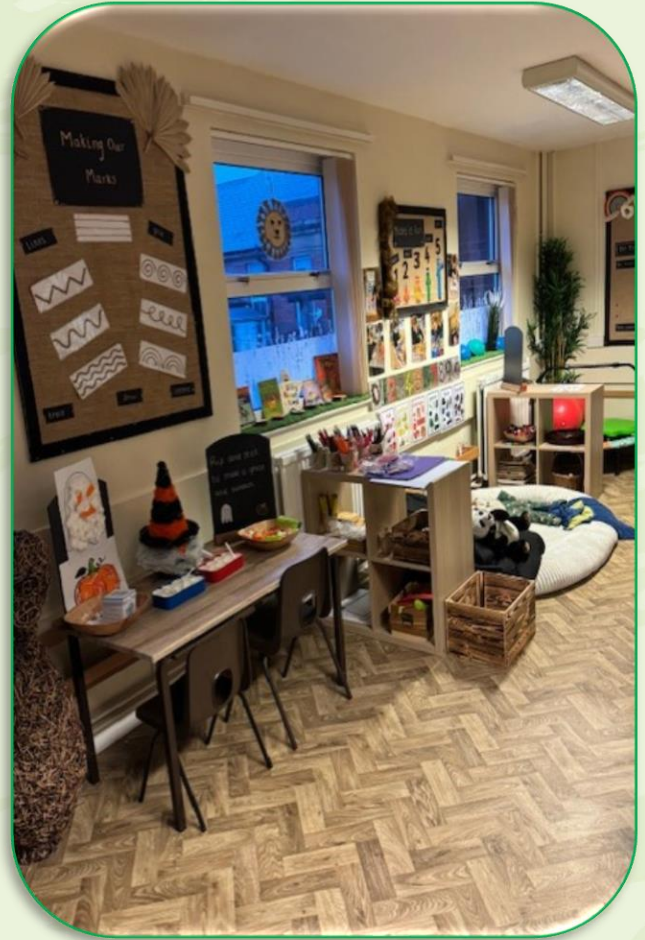
BEFORE:



AFTER:



Rainbow Room Resource:



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Wraparound Service:



Our Wraparound Service has been significantly enhanced over the course of the year. We now open at 7:30am and close at 6:00pm. The team now offer hot meals at afternoon Wraparound and have sourced additional activities such as air hockey, a pool table, enhanced craft resources and lots more! Pupil voice is extremely positive!

If you would like to hear more or visit Wraparound to see it in action, please just contact the office or speak to Managers Mrs Catherall (AM) or Miss Lumb (PM),



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Halloween Social:

Thank you for your support to make our Halloween Social a success! Here are some of the photos of the children having a wonderful time with their friends.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Mental Health:

We are pleased to inform you that we are now a silver award accredited myHappyMind school. Our second year of running the programme has allowed us to further develop children's awareness of themselves, develop their strategy of happy breathing and enhance their awareness of their character strengths. Here is a reminder of the units we have covered:



Parents and Carers! Thank you!

We are proud to announce that our school is officially a myHappyMind Silver Accredited school. The Accreditation recognises schools that are embedding the myHappyMind curriculum into school life and taking real action to improve the mental health and well-being of the school community.

We would like to thank those parents who provided feedback about the program, which supported the application.

As we were successful with our application, we will receive some fantastic resources to help us embed the myHappyMind curriculum next year including a Fred the Ted bean bag to help us create a nurture corner for the children.

Want to learn more about the science of myHappyMind and how you can use myHappyMind techniques at home? Why not grab a copy of myHappyMind's Founder, Laura Earnshaw's best-selling book 'My Happy Mind' <https://myhappymind.org/mhmbook>

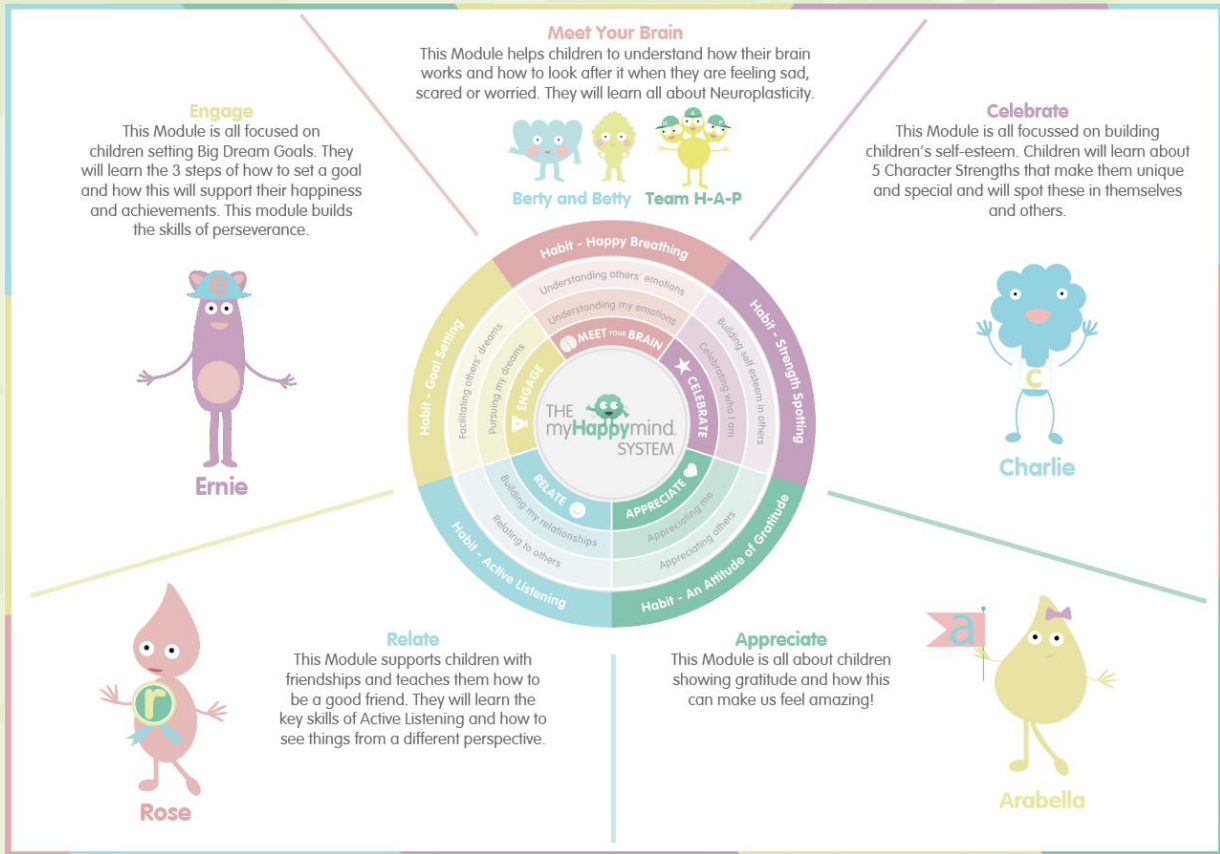
Don't forget to sign up to the FREE Parent app, you can use the QR code below to download it.

Many thanks,



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Mental Health:



In addition to the myHappyMind app that you can access at home, Mrs Boyd and Mrs Thorpe recommend the Luminova app:

Does your child struggle with worries or anxiety?

Help your child build confidence with a new digital therapy game

LUMINOVA
TALES OF COURAGE

Free

- ✓ For 7-12 year olds*
- ✓ NICE recommended
- ✓ Free instant access

To learn more visit: luminova.app/wakefield

In partnership with **BfB**

NHS West Yorkshire South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

*LumiNova is for children aged 7-12 experiencing mild to moderate anxiety. It is not recommended for use with children who have severe anxiety, are in crisis, have suicidal thoughts or are at risk of self-harm or medical clinical supervision. See instructions for use: BfB.co.uk/luminova

myHappyMind.

Download your **FREE** myHappyMind App to support your child's learning in school!

...A **FREE** online resource to support you and your family to learn more about how you can use myHappyMind to support your child.

SCAN ME

...Want to learn more about the science of happiness? Check out myHappyMind founder Laura Earnshaw's best selling book!

YOU WILL NEED this authentication code to sign up

[myhappymind](https://www.instagram.com/myhappymind) [myhappymind](https://www.facebook.com/myhappymind) [myhappymind_](https://www.twitter.com/myhappymind_)



Safeguarding:

One of our most important jobs is to keep the children safe. Please see our Safeguarding Officers in the poster below. If you are contacted about a concern that has been raised, please always remember that we are working to keep all children safe and work with families to ensure this is the case. We will always aim to be open and honest.

Safeguarding

Are you worried? You can talk to any adult in school, we are here to help.

Our school Safeguarding Officers are...

Ms Pollitt
Chair of Governors
Safeguarding Governor

Mrs Dixon
Headteacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead, E-Safety Leader

Miss Goldsmith
Deputy Headteacher
Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Mr Forsyth
Assistant Headteacher
Safeguarding Officer

Mrs Thorpe
Safeguarding and Child Protection Lead

Mrs Boyd
Learning Mentor
Safeguarding Officer
Attendance Officer

Miss Hunt
SENCo
Safeguarding Officer

Miss Ogley
Safeguarding Officer

Are you worried?
Talk to someone.

ChildLine
0800 1111

#TheSmawthorneExperience

The Children Act 1989 requires that everyone who works with children must report any child who is thought to be at risk of serious harm. The Education Act 2002 requires all schools to have arrangements to safeguard the children. We have procedures in place to do this and a policy that all staff, volunteers and regular visitors must work to. You can request a copy of our safeguarding policy from reception. This can also be found on our school website.

Diary dates for Autumn 2 half term:

Here are some key dates coming up!

Every Monday: [Yoga sessions](#) for the children in Pumas, Giraffes and Penguins classes. Your child should come to school dressed in their PE kits every Monday.

Every Wednesday: After school [Gymnastics club](#) for Years 1-3 (20 children).

Every Thursday: After school [Rugby club](#) for Years 4-6 (20 children).

Monday 3rd November: [Open Evening for Reception 2026](#), 4.00pm.

Tuesday 4th November: [Reading Café](#) for Year 1 parents/carers, 2.20pm.

Wednesday 5th November: [Reading Café](#) for Year 2 parents/carers, 2.20pm.

Wednesday 5th November: [Bonfire Night](#) themed lunch (order through feedinghungryminds)

Thursday 6th November: [Nasal flu vaccinations](#) for Reception to Year 6 children (please book online or return the letter by 3 November).

Monday 10th November: [Anti-bullying week](#) including [Odd Socks Day](#) on Monday.

11th-18th November: [Scholastic Book Fair](#).

Wednesday 12th November and Thursday 13th November: [Parents' evenings](#), 3.30-6.00pm. (*Pre-school parents' evening will take place on Thursday only*).

Monday 17th November: [Open Evening for Reception 2026](#), 4.00pm.

Monday 17th November: [Road safety week](#).

Monday 24th November: [Inset Day 2](#) – school closed for children.

Thursday 4th December: [Year 4](#) visit to the Hepworth Gallery.

Friday 5th December: [Christmas coffee morning](#).

Here's to lots of Smawthorne Experiences for the children to enjoy together!

Thank you for your support and kindness.