

Spring 1

Smawthorne Henry Moore Academy Newsletter



What a half term! We began with so much disappointment as the snow cancelled our Year 6 residential to Robin Wood. However, we've ended the term in celebration and joy. When I then think of everything that has been achieved in the last six weeks, it makes me feel very lucky to part of such a special community.

The cherry on the cake was celebrating the next chapter for our school, as we joined Accomplish MAT. Our launch day was very special for us all and seeing the children's smiling faces as we officially opened. This was a very proud moment for us.

The children have welcomed this next step and I know that they will continue to shine as we move forward with our plans for the future.

We welcome the Accomplish team to our school and will work closely to deliver the very best education to your children. This half term's newsletter is a celebration! I hope you enjoy having a look through.

Best wishes, Mrs Dixon



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Our Launch Day Assembly



Our launch assembly was completed by Mrs Dixon, Mrs Swinburne, Accomplish CEO, and our Head Boy and Head Girl. The children also sang our aspirational song, 'Defying Gravity'. We were joined by Trustees and headteachers from our new MAT academies, our governors and the Accomplish staff team.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

The Official Opening



The opening had an arch with our rainbow colours and some of the children's individual drawings. You may have seen this at the front of the building! Our Academy was officially opened with our School Councillors as witnesses!



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Gifts from our new Academy Family



During our assembly, we were presented with gifts from all of our Accomplish Academies and Accomplish themselves. These are now in the library for the children to enjoy for years to come!



#TheSmawthorneExperience

An Author's Visit - Grandad Wheels

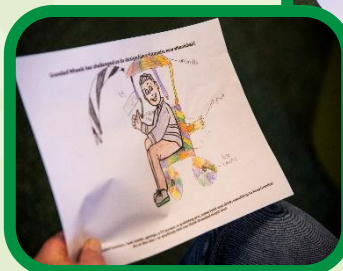


Did your child come home 'raving' about Grandad Wheels?

What an inspirational author. We were blown away by his stories and tales; the children were even challenged to design Brian a new wheelchair!



Author, Brian Abram.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Creating Portraits Of Our Family Values



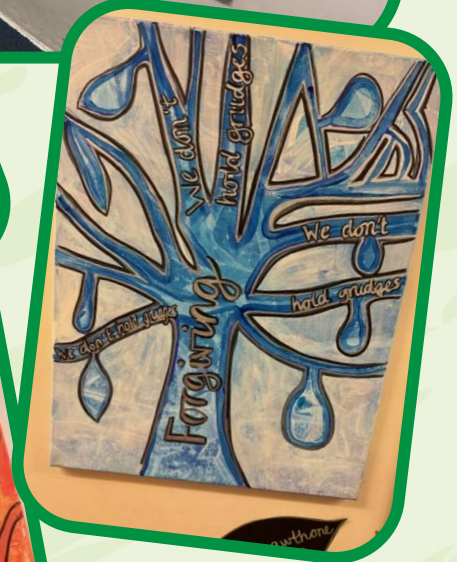
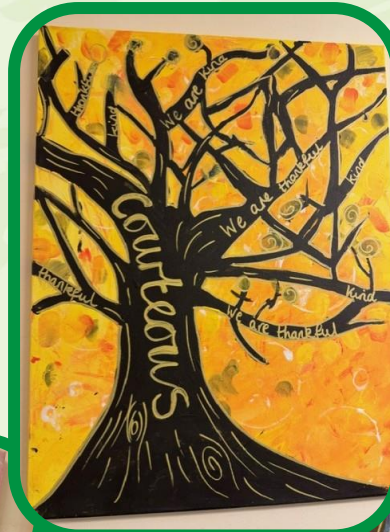
Our Year 5 and 6 children took part in a workshop with Accomplish Art Teacher, Miss Bairstow. They used acrylic paint and canvases to create beautiful representations of our Family Values.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Creating Portraits Of Our Family Values

Here are the stunning outcomes!



Smawthorne Family Values

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

Responsible- We are dependable and work to keep our agreed Values



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Decorations, New Signs and Celebrations



#TheSmawthorneExperience

The History of our Academy

As part of our Open Day assembly, we shared the history of our school. We thought about how many children have already attended our school and how many staff have worked here to help make a difference for our children. We wondered if any of our family members attended here!

Chapter 1

In 1914 (the year in which World War I started), the school opened on Monday October 5th and was named Glasshoughton New Council School. Later, this became Castleford Ashton Road Council School.

Chapter 2

By 1939 (the year in which World War II started), the school had undergone many changes. These included providing education for infants, juniors and secondary aged children and also separate departments for boys and girls.

Chapter 3

1970 was the year in which the first mobile phone was invented. In this year, the school site comprised of separate Infants, Junior Mixed and Senior Mixed schools.

Chapter 4

1976 - The site was reorganised once more to become Smawthorne First and Smawthorne Middle Schools due to the introduction of Comprehensive Education.

Chapter 5

2002 - Smawthorne Infants amalgamated with Henry Moore Juniors to become Smawthorne Henry Moore Primary School.

Chapter 6

2015 - Smawthorne Henry Moore Primary School opened our Preschool unit for children aged 2.

Chapter 7

2025 - Smawthorne Henry Moore Primary School closed and reopened as Smawthorne Henry Moore Academy.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Our Beautiful Learning Environment



Our Learning Environment is an important tool for supporting learning, showcasing children's work and developing curiosity. We also use it to encourage children to feel safe and at home.

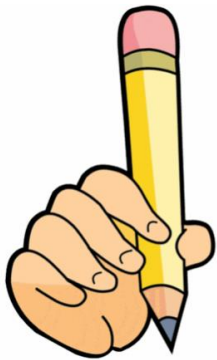


#TheSmawthorneExperience

What else have we been up to?

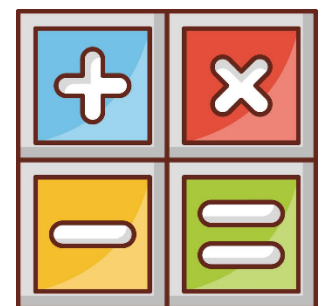
In addition to preparing for our conversion, working on our learning environment and Smawthorne Experiences, we have been making great strides of progress in our school improvement. Here are some key headlines that we have been supporting your children with.

Reading: We have been teaching reading through a new approach, building children's confidence with reading fluently by practising reading text a number of times. This is increasing speed and accuracy. We hope the children can develop this at home - have you noticed if your child is becoming more fluent?



Writing: We have developed our writing plans and teaching sequence to provide more practise time for skills so that the skill becomes automatic. We have also developed a robust approach to teaching handwriting and the children are trying really hard with this! Please help us by encouraging your child to practice their spellings.

Maths: We are working hard on our times tables teaching and again providing practise time for children to master concepts in more depth. Please encourage your child to practise their times tables on TT Rockstars over half term - practise makes perfect!



Our Valentine's Disco!

Our Valentine's Disco was hugely enjoyable for both staff and children. It was lovely to see the children relaxing and socialising. Thank you for all raffle donations.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

School Council Visit to Wakefield Town Hall:



I had the pleasure of taking our School Councillor's to Wakefield Town Hall to visit the Mayor and also observe a Citizenship Ceremony. This was a wonderful morning of developing our understanding of British Values and the children were exemplary.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Diary dates for next term:

Here are some key dates coming up!

Monday 24th to Wednesday 26th February: [Bikeability for Pumas class](#) Please ensure you return your consent form by Monday 24th to enable your child to take part.

Tuesday 25th February (to Tuesday 1st April): [After school Dodgeball, Years 1 to 3](#)

Thursday 27th February (to Thursday 3rd April): [After school Tag Rugby for Years 4 to 6](#)

Thursday 27th February: [Year 5 visit to Magna](#)

Thursday 27th February: [SATs information meetings for Parents/Carers](#), 9.00am and 5.00pm

Friday 28th February (to Friday 11th July): [Dolphins swimming sessions](#)

Monday 3rd to Wednesday 5th March: [Bikeability for Lions Class](#)

Thursday 6th March: [World Book Day](#) You child is invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character.

Thursday 6th March: [Parents' Evening for Year 6](#), 3.00 to 8.00pm

Friday 7th March: [Non-uniform day for Leopards class](#)

Wednesday 12th to Friday 14th March: [Robinwood residential for Year 6](#)

Wednesday 19th March and Friday 21st March: [Reception visits to Swithen's Farm](#)

Tuesday 25th March: [Reading Café for Year 1 parents/carers](#)

Wednesday 26th and Thursday 27th March: [Year 4 visits to Murton Park](#)

Friday 28th March: [Reading Café for Year 2 parents/carers](#)

Thursday 3rd April: [Year 3 visit to Harlow Carr](#)

Friday 4th April: [Easter Inspire afternoon for parents/carers](#)

Here's to lots of Smawthorne Experiences for the children to enjoy together! Thank you for your support and kindness.