

Spring 2

Smawthorne Henry Moore Academy Newsletter



Spring is truly in the air at Smawthorne, the sun has been shining, we have caterpillars in Nursery that will turn into cocoons before transforming into beautiful butterflies, our daffodils are looking radiant in our quad garden and we have celebrated a special time of year with Easter Inspire, Coffee Morning and various activities. We hope that you have enjoyed preparing these and engaging with your children.

There have been some incredible visits and visitors this term; I look forward to sharing this with you in the newsletter. In addition to the items in this newsletter, we have had some brilliant assemblies with a special mention to one of our parents, Mr Jenkinson, and the team at DB Cargo, for taking the time to speak with our children about taking care around railways.

I also share with you that our long-standing Chair of Governor's, Cllr Forster, has been accepted onto Accomplish Board of Trustees. Cllr Forster has been our Chair of Governors since 2015 and has been a driving force in supporting us through the pandemic, through multiple challenges and has always had the children at the forefront on his actions. We have been incredibly grateful for his guidance and support and know that he will do a fantastic job on the Accomplish Board.



At our last Governing Board meeting we successfully appointed our new Chair of Governors, who is our previous Vice Chair, Ms Pollitt. Ms Pollitt has always been a valued member of our Governing Board and is looking forward to continuing to make a positive contribution. She is joined by our new Vice Chair, Mrs Cowell. We wish them both lots of success in their new roles.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

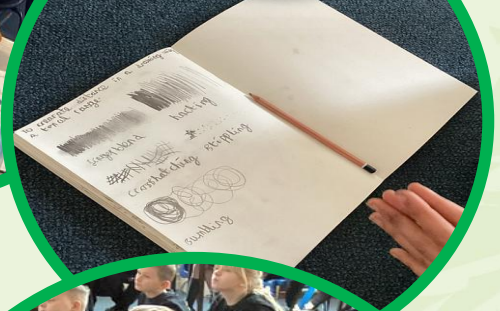
Early Years Developments!

This half term, our Early Years team have been working with Accomplish leaders to review and develop our Early Years learning environment and structures. They have transformed the learning environment so that children have opportunities that are magical and developmental. The children have responded incredibly well to the changes. Just WOW!



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Year 5 Art development



The children in Year 5 have been working with Accomplish Art Teacher, Miss Bairstow. Their topic is natural disasters and so they have been learning about artist Timothy Sorsdahl. They have learned how to use colour and line to create artwork in a similar style.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Pancake Day Celebrations



Pancake Day is a firm favourite at SHMA. We love to share how to make, decorate and eat our pancakes and we enjoy an annual competition in assembly. This year was spectacular with Father Keith joining us!



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A visit to Swithens Farm for Reception!

Butterflies and Dragonflies had a wonderful time at Swithens Farm. They saw lots of farm animals, including piglets and lambs. The children even got to feed the lambs their milk! Staff returned with happy smiles, commenting about the impeccable behaviour of the children. Well done!



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Year 4 visit to Murton Park



The children in Year 4 spent the day embedding their learning about The Stone Age and Iron Age, but learning through experience and from experts in their field. Their experiences were enjoyed by the children and the weather was glorious for them!



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Year 6 Residential to Robinwood



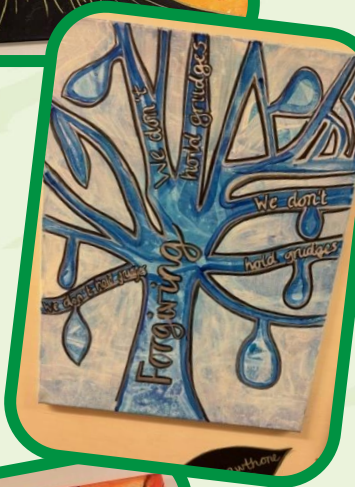
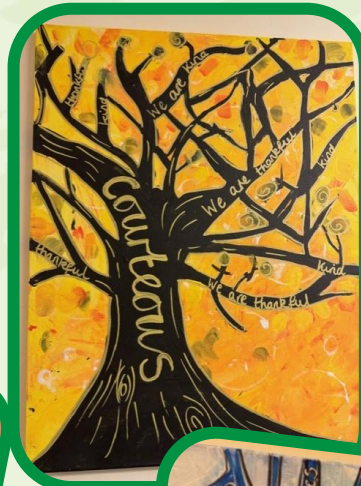
After having to cancel our first attempt at our overnight residential, Year 6 eventually got to Robinwood and had an absolute blast! Above are just a few of the photographs of the activities they took part in.




#TheSmawthorneExperience

Creating Portraits of Our Family Values

Here are our Family Values!





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



Our Eco-Warriors



Our Eco-Warriors are starting to make a positive contribution to our school community and local area as they are undertaking litter picking. Thank you to all children – you did a fantastic job. I am looking forward to seeing how you develop your work in the Summer term.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Safe travels

We have been having a real focus on keeping our children safe on their journeys to school.

Two PCSOs have been into school to speak with children about identifying safe spaces to park, before walking to school. They have also supported awareness of in-car safety, as they have been measuring each child from Reception to Year 4 to see if they need a car seat when travelling in a vehicle. We hope that you found this information useful!



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.



#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: This half term, we have continued to develop and perfect our teaching of fluency through training from our Accomplish Trust. We recognise how important it is that our children learn to read accurately and recognise words on site, becoming more fluent. Please encourage your children to read at home; this doesn't always have to be a novel, it can be a magazine or joke book for example. Reading is all about pleasure and enjoyment, which we are continuing to nurture within our children.



Writing: During the Spring term, we have refined our strategies for teaching writing transcription, specifically focussing on handwriting and spelling. Our aim is to enhance our children's accuracy and fluency in these areas. By achieving this, we aim to reduce the cognitive load associated with letter formation and the application of spelling patterns, enabling our children to dedicate more time to developing their sentence construction, compositions skills, grammar and punctuation.

Maths: Our TT Rockstars Launch this term was incredibly successful. Across the course of the launch week, as a school, the children answered an incredible 287,000 correct answers. We also managed to get our average seconds per question down to less than six seconds, which is outstanding; especially for our Year 4 children who will be undertaking their multiplication check in May.



Please remember that having a secure grasp of the basics of maths, including the fluent recall of times tables, is crucial for children's success in moving on to more complex maths.

Year 5 visit to Magna Science Museum

The children in Year 5 visited Magna Science Museum, as part of their Science learning about forces and in readiness for their learning about Earth and space.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

TTRockstars Week!

TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS



This week was fantastic – the children completed so many questions – we were incredibly impressed with their resilience and determination. After the Easter break, we will work on an Accomplish MAT challenge called Diamond Dash – where the children will be applying their knowledge and progressing through different awards!



#TheSmawthorneExperience

World Book Day 2025!



Our World Book Day was a wonderful occasion; the staff and children looked amazing! We hope that you enjoyed the Masked Reader Challenge on Class Dojo – how many did your child guess correctly?

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**
6 MARCH 2025




#TheSmawthorneExperience

World Book Day 2025 – so many to share!



Miss Ogley
Smawthorne Henry Moore Academy
3 Mar



Good morning...
Here's a Smawthorne's Masked Reader.
We will be most three each day.
Who is behind the mask?

#TheSmawthorneExperience

Year 5 Bikeability



Learning how to ride our bikes safely is an additional learning opportunity that Cycle North were able to offer our children. The staff commented that our school was a joy to visit and commended our children's attitudes and behaviours. Here is what the children thought:

"At first, it was hard but it was quite easy at the end of the lessons. It was easier without pedals than with pedals." - JJ

"I liked bikeability because it helped me improve my biking skills and it was really fun. My favourite part was when we went on a long bike ride." - Keira



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Musical enjoyment!



Our children have been enjoying their music learning. Year 1 and Year 4 take part in music lessons with Mrs Attack, with percussion (Y1) and Samba (Y4) lessons. Year 3 have also begun their recorder lessons. In addition, we have weekly singing assemblies – we will be learning the Accomplish song after the Easter break.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Sports Competitions and Achievements!



Children in Years 5 and 6 participated in a tag rugby competition. There were a range of Wakefield schools with our team competing against 20 schools. We came 3rd overall which was a fantastic achievement.

Our reception children took part in a dance workshop and learned the banana samba, a hip-hop dance and a contemporary dance too. They thoroughly enjoyed it and put in 100% effort. Well done to all who took part!



At the start of the year, our School Council introduced The Character Award. This prestigious award can be achieved by any child in school achieving 600 Dojos. I am pleased to say that Ollie in Year 4 was the first child to achieve this award. Congratulations Ollie. I can't wait to see who else achieves this in the Summer term.



Reading Cafe!

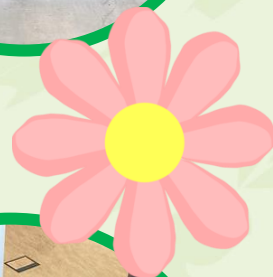
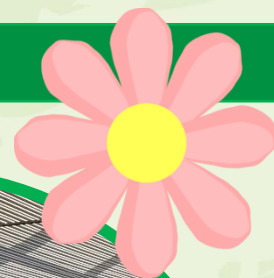
As you know, we love books and reading! Reading underpins everything that we do and we are working hard to develop the children's phonics and word reading abilities in Reception and KS1. In KS2, we are working on children being able to read fluently and developing stamina for reading at length. To support our children's love of reading, we facilitated Reading Café. A HUGE thank you to Mrs Scales, who created so many lovely reading spaces and activities for families to enjoy. We can report that we had over 40 families attending each session. Thank you all for your support; we hope you enjoyed the dedicated time to read with your children.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Year 3 visit to Harlow Carr!

Children in Year 3 had a wonderful day at Harlow Carr Gardens, Harrogate. Their day started with a workshop to teach the children about pollination and seed dispersal. The children then went to the greenhouse to plant their own wildflower pot. The workshop finished with a mini tour of the gardens to see the pollination and seed dispersal in action.



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Don't Crack the Egg Challenge:



This year's challenge was again, wonderful to see. The children really enjoyed seeing if their packaging design was strong enough to protect their egg. There were some fantastic designs and it was great fun indeed. Well done to all who took part!



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Next term's Reading for Pleasure books

To support our reading development, we change the books in each year group's reading areas. Here are the books that will be available for next term! We hope the children enjoy getting stuck into their new books!

Reception								
Year 1								
Year 2								
Year 3								
Year 4								
Year 5								
Year 6								

Diamond Dash Times Tables Challenges:

We believe that repetition of times tables is crucial. Next term, we are introducing a fantastic motivational system in school called 'Diamond Dash'. This was created by an Accomplish academy and we are thrilled to take part! Children work their way through the awards in their time at Smawthorne Henry Moore Academy. Please find below all of the awards for your child to work towards. Of course, we always reinforce going on Times Tables Rockstars as fun repetition too and will regularly set competitions for this.

Below is a grid showing the awards on offer, which are designed to include all children. The expectation for each award has been matched to the National Curriculum expectations. There are 8 levels available and these should be taken based on each child's ability, not their year group. Children will be encouraged to take the challenges regularly after practising their skills in school and at home.

Apart from the Topaz and Emerald levels, each test is to be timed. There will be certificates given for each level of the challenge with badges also being presented to children who achieve Bronze, Silver and Gold challenges.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Gold</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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. <p>Gold Award certificate and badge to be given. Child put forward to the Diamond Dash.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Silver</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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. <p>Silver Award certificate and badge to be given.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Bronze</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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. <p>Bronze Award certificate and badge to be given.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sapphire</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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. <p>Sapphire Award certificate to be given.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Ruby</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 times tables in written form.• Division facts on reverse.• Timed: 5 minutes.• All correct answers within time. <p>Ruby Award certificate to be given.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Pearl</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2, 5 and 10 times tables in written form.• Division facts on reverse.• Timed: 5 minutes.• All correct answers within time. <p>Pearl Award certificate to be given.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Emerald</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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. <p>Emerald Award certificate to be given.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Topaz</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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. <p>Topaz Award certificate to be given.</p>



Decorated Egg Competition Winners:

All of the decorated eggs this year have been outstanding. Our Head Boy, Jack, and Head Girl, Skylar, had the pleasure of being this year's judges. They were very impressed with the entries! Well done to everyone who has taken part and thank you to our parents and carers for making such an effort too!



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

Wakefield Easter Activities :

EASTER ACTIVITIES

FREE for children and young people who receive benefits-related free school meals



**Youth Hub - Easter Family Fun Session
@ The Hut**

Tuesday 15th April 11am - 1pm

For families with children aged between 5 and 16 years
Join us for multi sports, roller disco, crafts and bowling.

A free packed lunch will be provided for all children
that attend the session.

At least one adult over the age of 18 must attend this
session with the children.

To book your place visit

<https://wakefieldcouncil.coordinate.cloud/>



Funded by
Department
for Education

EASTER ACTIVITIES

FREE for those up to the age of 16 who receive benefits-related free school meals



Youth Hub - Easter Fun Session @ The Hut

Tuesday 15th April 2pm - 4pm

For Young People in school Years 6 to 11.

Join us for multi sports, roller disco, crafts and
bowling. A free packed lunch will be provided for all
young people that attend the session.

To book your place visit

<https://wakefieldcouncil.coordinate.cloud/>



#TheSmawthorneExperience

Attendance:

We have been focussing on rapidly improving our attendance again this year. Our current figure is 94.40%, which is our highest since the pandemic. However, our school target is above 96% and we are striving for this! Your child may have told you about our attendance jars – every time the class achieves 100% attendance for the day, a star is awarded. Once the jar is full, the children chose a reward from the menu!

Please continue to support us by making sure where at all possible, your child attends!

We will send out your child's attendance summary when we return to school so that you can see how they are doing so far this year. Remember, below 90% is considered persistently absent.

We will complete the 96%+ attendance scooter and voucher raffle and present the 100% attendance certificates and badges for Spring term when we return from the Easter break.



Yearly Attendance		
Year:	Attendance:	Difference to 96% target:
2022-2023	91.74	4.26
2023-2024	92.38	3.62
2024-2025 so far!	94.40	1.60



2024-2025 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!	

Diary dates for next half term:

Here are some key dates coming up!

Tuesday 22nd April: [School re-opens](#) for the start of the Summer Term.

Thursday 24th April: [Parents Evening](#) - if you have not yet informed your child's class teacher of a preferred time, please do so as soon as possible.

Monday 28th April: [Year 1 Phonics meetings for parents/carers](#) will be held at 9.00am and 2.30pm to explain about the screening tests taking place in June.

Wednesday 30th April: [Elephants](#) educational visit to Scarborough.

Thursday 1st May: [Pandas](#) educational visit to Scarborough.

Monday 5th May: [School closed](#) for the Bank Holiday.

Thursday 15th May: [Accomplish Artist](#), Miss Bairstow, working with Years 3 and 4.

Friday 23rd May: [Break the Rules Day](#) – the children say that they LOVE this day!

Friday 23rd May: [School closes](#) at 3.15pm for the Spring Bank Holiday.

Monday 2nd June: [School re-opens](#).

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

Thank you for your support and kindness.

I wish you all a healthy, happy Easter break and look forward to our third and final term when we return.



#TheSmawthorneExperience