

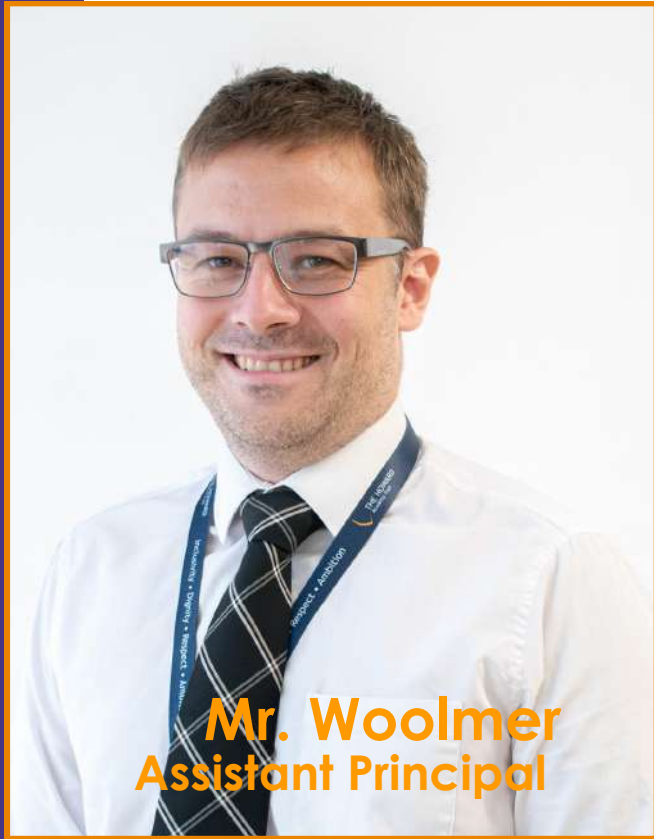


The Howard School

Newsletter

High Standards lead to High Achievement
Be Hardworking | Be Good | Be Kind

welcome



Mr. Woolmer
Assistant Principal

Winter is coming.

I heard the phrase on the weather forecast the other night, and as well as being a big *Song of Ice and Fire* (aka *Game of Thrones*) fan, it is a poignant reminder that we are in one of the toughest terms. It is the longest term, but the adrenaline of the first term wanes as the nights creep in earlier and earlier, the GCSEs can feel a long way off, the excitement and focus of Christmas start to feature in conversations, and the dropping temperatures mean the big coats come down from the loft.

However, at The Howard, things don't stop. To name just a few, we have had a very positive sixth form open evening, our Year 11s are busy attending interventions, the new Aspire programme is in full swing, we have STEM events working with our younger year groups,

and Year 11 and 12 students have their mocks coming up. This is an important time for them to not only get a sense of where they are academically but also experience what the summer exams will be like. It is not only a busy term but also one of the most important for our students at all stages throughout the school.

I would like to use this platform to express a particular thank you. Whilst all these events are wonderful and truly enrich our students' experience of secondary school, we cannot forget those who work tirelessly behind the scenes. Since becoming an Assistant Principal, it has become increasingly apparent that these things cannot be achieved without the unwavering support and hard work of our support staff: the office staff, pastoral and attendance teams, TAs, exams and careers teams, cover staff, inclusion team, and estates team. They work tirelessly to ensure the school runs smoothly and that our students grow into the best adults they can be.

As a school, we cannot achieve what we do on a daily basis without them, so I hope you will join me in saying a big thank you for all the hard work they will put in with the students this term to ensure they make the most of the lead-up to the Christmas holiday.

Design a Christmas Card. Represent your House. Win £25 Amazon Voucher.

Winning design will be made into the School Christmas Card.

Designs must be portrait and with Mr. Hillier by 15th November.

DESIGN A CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION



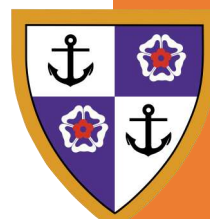
Christmas Card Design Competition

This festive season, we're thrilled to announce our **School Christmas Card Design Competition!** We're inviting students to create a Christmas card design that represents their house. The winning artwork will become the official School Christmas Card, and the artist will receive a **£25 Amazon voucher!**

Key Details:

- **Format:** Designs should be in **portrait orientation**.
- **Submission Deadline:** All entries should be submitted to Mr. Hillier by **15th November**.

We encourage all students to participate, unleash their creativity, and help make this holiday season truly special for our school community. Let's get creative and celebrate the festive spirit!





OUR SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Principal Mr J Johal

safeguarding@thehowardschool.co.uk

Scan Me



MR S GREEN

Vice Principal
Designated Safeguarding
Lead

01634 388765 Ext: 3015



MS T MCCOMAS

Pastoral Support Manager
Deputy Safeguarding Lead

01634 388765 Ext: 3006

MRS J DEAKIN

Assistant Principal
Deputy Safeguarding Lead

01634 388765 Ext: 3030



MS A MULROONEY

Assistant Principal
Safeguarding Officer

01634 388765 Ext: 3038



MR N LONGE

Senior Head of Year
Safeguarding Officer

01634 388765 Ext: 3036



MR B DABURN

Senior Head of Year
Safeguarding Officer

01634 388765 Ext: 3046

MS J PARISH

Safeguarding Officer

01634 388765 Ext: 3020



MRS S KEEGAN

Safeguarding Officer

01634 388765 Ext: 3009



Medway Council Children's Social Care can be contacted on 01634 334466
Medway's First response Service is 01634 334466: 24 hour emergency number is 0300 041919
Alternative telephone numbers where you have concerns about a child:
NSPCC: 08088 005000 - ChildLine: 0800 1111



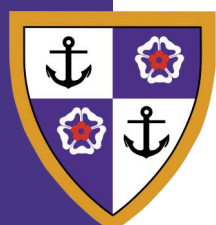
On Monday, The Howard School community came together to observe Remembrance Day, a significant occasion to honour and remember those who served and sacrificed. In a special assembly, students and staff participated in a moment of silence to pay their respects and reflect on the importance of the day.

As part of our tribute, students were invited to wear their cadet uniforms instead of their usual school attire, creating a strong visual reminder of the role that young people play in both remembering and embodying the values of service and sacrifice. The students' commitment to wearing these uniforms demonstrated their pride and respect for those who have served.

Adding to the poignancy of the assembly, BB, a Year 8 student, played *The Last Post* on his cornet. This traditional piece, often associated with Remembrance ceremonies, created a reflective and solemn atmosphere as the haunting notes filled the space. BB's performance was a fitting tribute, reminding us all of the enduring legacy of those who have served.

At The Howard School, we believe that it is essential for young people to understand and reflect upon the sacrifices made by others. Events like today's observance of Remembrance Day not only help us to honour the past but also encourage our students to embody values of respect, gratitude, and remembrance in their own lives.

We thank all students, staff, and especially BB, for making this tribute so meaningful.



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators TEACHING CYCLE SAFETY

Cycling is an amazing way to spend quality time together as a family, as well as keeping everyone healthy and active – and it's an excellent exercise, whatever the age of your children. Getting started can sometimes be daunting, and there are obvious safety concerns over youngsters who are still getting used to a bike – so follow our top tips to help you ride with confidence.

1 CONSIDER CYCLE TRAINING

Courses like Bikeability are extremely useful, and training in general has come a long way since cycling proficiency began; there are Bikeability courses for adults, too. Cycle training teaches invaluable skills (such as good road positioning, signalling and visibility), and can help both parents and children feel more at ease on busy streets.

2 USE A SUITABLE BIKE

Find a bike of an appropriate size for its rider and resist the temptation to have children 'grow into' theirs by buying one too large for them. A bigger bike will be heavier and more difficult to control, making accidents more likely and potentially putting youngsters off cycling forever. If your child has any specific physical needs, or has dyspraxia, then try out a trike, handcycle or other adaptive cycle to see what works best.

3 TRY A CARGO BIKE

Cargo bikes, particularly the box-bike style, are ideal for transporting small children around. Depending on the type of bike chosen – as well as the size and age of the children – it can be possible to transport up to four little ones in this way, with additional space for other cargo as well.

4 INSPECT YOUR CYCLE

It's a good idea to do some routine checks on any bike before going for a ride to make sure everything's working correctly. The 'M check' is particularly useful: assessing the condition and position of the bike's wheels, handlebars, brakes, pedals, chain and saddle, working from front to back. Online tutorial videos can also teach you how to carry out basic repairs if needed. For more complicated fixes, head to your local bike shop.

5 BRING SUITABLE GEAR

Ensure whatever you're wearing, and any attachments for your bike, are suitable for the ride. A waterproof jacket will let you cycle safely in almost any weather. Make sure any helmets are fitted correctly. If you're riding after dark, remember to fit your bikes with a white front light, a red rear light and a red rear reflector. These are required by law.

6 STICK TO FLAT TERRAIN

Take a smooth, flat route if possible, so it's more suitable for younger cyclists. You might be surprised by how many quiet roads or back streets there may be in your area. Don't be put off by an indirect but easier path as opposed to a shorter, busier one. Look out for the National Cycle Network, canal towpaths and even parks that you can cut through.

7 STAY ALERT AND IN SAFE FORMATIONS

For maximum protection and visibility, ride in a line with children in the middle and adults at either end. If you're the only adult present, take up a position at the rear to ensure all children remain in your sight. Don't be tempted to hug the kerb if cycling on the road – riding approximately a metre out will make you more noticeable to other road users, and you'll also stay clear of any debris in the gutter.

8 AVOID PARKED CARS

When riding past parked cars, try to stay at least a metre away, just in case anyone inside opens a door unexpectedly or the vehicle itself starts to move. This precaution will also deter anyone driving behind from trying to squeeze past you when there isn't enough space, so don't be afraid to ride in a prominent position.

9 START A 'BIKE BUS'

Cycling to school with other families is a potentially fun experience – one which comes with the added benefit of safety in numbers, in case anything goes wrong along the way. Team up with other parents, carers and educators and pick a day to cycle to school together. Who knows – maybe, in time, you'll have other folks asking to join you!

10 HAVE FUN!

Keep in mind that cycling should be fun! A good bike ride can be really enjoyable for adults and children alike, while also being a superb form of exercise. Encourage kids into the hobby by starting them off with shorter journeys – such as a trip to the park – and build them up to longer, more complicated outings. Some children may get bored on a longer ride, so try to keep a conversation going with them.

Meet Our Expert

Sophie Gordon is the campaigns manager at Cycling UK, a charity which inspires and enables people to start cycling. She has spent six years campaigning for safer roads and more protected cycle paths, while supporting communities to call for better cycling conditions where they live.



House Events

Term 2



Spelling Bee

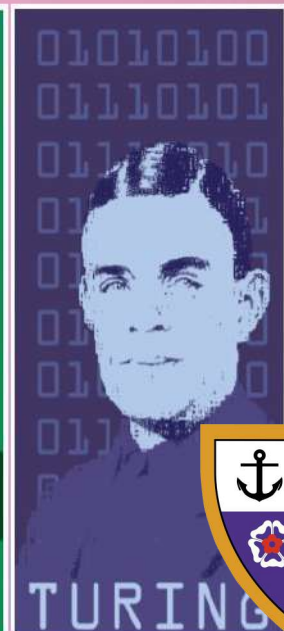
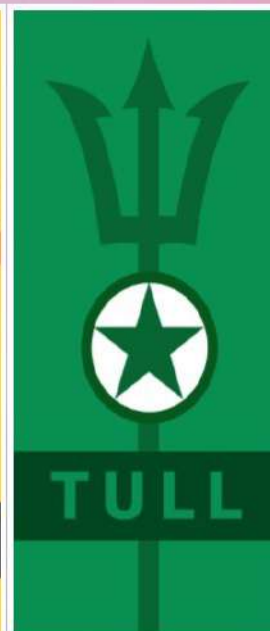
- Year 7 - 10th December
- Year 8 - 9th December
- Year 9 - 4th December
- Year 10 - 3rd December
- Year 11 - 2nd December
- Year 12/13 - 5th December



- Year 7 - 25th November
- Year 8 - 26th November
- Year 9 - 25th November
- Year 10 - 26th November
- Year 11 - 27th November

HOUSE DARTS

To sign-up and represent your House on any event, head to your Google Classroom or see Mr. Hillier



1

DEFINITION OF A CHILD

2

NO DISCRIMINATION

3

BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD

4

MAKING RIGHTS REAL

5

FAMILY GUIDANCE AS CHILDREN DEVELOP

6

LIFE, SURVIVAL AND DEVELOPMENT

7

NAME AND NATIONALITY

8

IDENTITY

9

KEEPING FAMILIES TOGETHER

10

CONTACT WITH PARENTS ACROSS COUNTRIES

11

PROTECTION FROM KIDNAPPING

12

RESPECT FOR CHILDREN'S VIEWS

13

SHARING THOUGHTS FREELY

14

FREEDOM OF THOUGHT AND RELIGION

15

SETTING UP OR JOINING GROUPS

16

PROTECTION OF PRIVACY

17

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

18

RESPONSIBILITY OF PARENTS

19

PROTECTION FROM VIOLENCE

20

CHILDREN WITHOUT FAMILIES

21

CHILDREN WHO ARE ADOPTED

22

REFUGEE CHILDREN

23

CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

24

HEALTH, WATER, FOOD, ENVIRONMENT

25

REVIEW OF A CHILD'S PLACEMENT

26

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC HELP

27

FOOD, CLOTHING, A SAFE HOME

28

ACCESS TO EDUCATION

29

AIMS OF EDUCATION

30

MINORITY CULTURE, LANGUAGE AND RELIGION

31

REST, PLAY, CULTURE, ARTS

32

PROTECTION FROM HARMFUL WORK

33

PROTECTION FROM HARMFUL DRUGS

34

PROTECTION FROM SEXUAL ABUSE

35

PREVENTION OF SALE AND TRAFFICKING

36

PROTECTION FROM EXPLOITATION

37

CHILDREN IN DETENTION

38

PROTECTION IN WAR

39

RECOVERY AND REINTEGRATION

40


CHILDREN WHO BREAK THE LAW

41

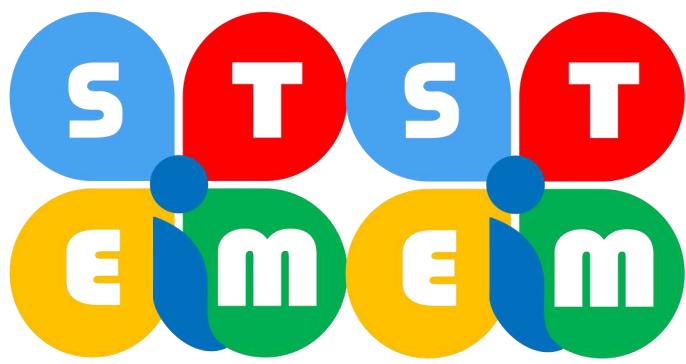
BEST LAW FOR CHILDREN APPLIES

42

EVERYONE MUST KNOW CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

43-54

HOW THE CONVENTION WORKS

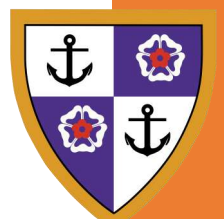
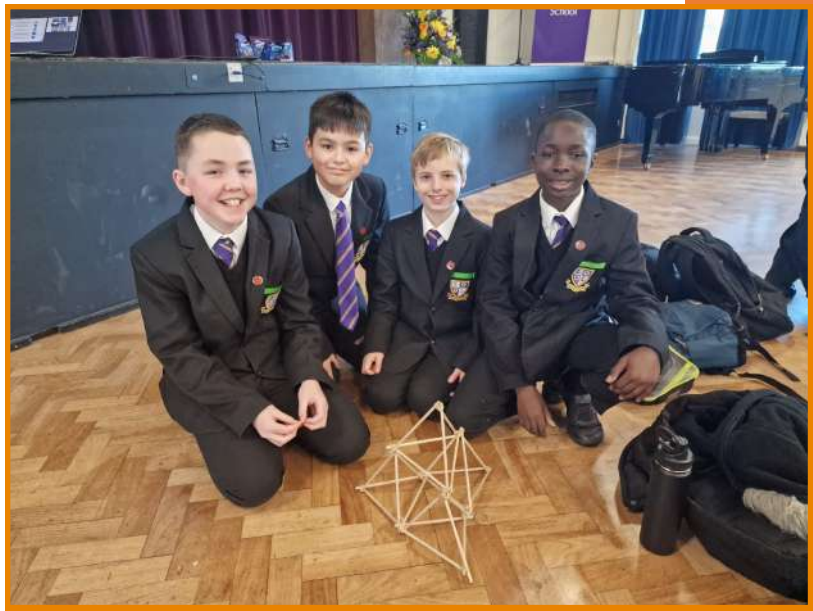
CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD



Today, our Main Hall buzzed with excitement as 60 of our Year 7 students took part in a dynamic STEM session led by a special visitor from the Medway Education Business Partnership (MEBP). The focus of the event was the tetrahedron – a shape with fascinating properties and real-world applications that kept our students engaged and inspired.

Throughout the morning, students explored the unique properties of tetrahedrons and their significance in various fields, from architecture to engineering. Working collaboratively, they delved into the strength and stability provided by this triangular-based structure, discovering how tetrahedrons can withstand force in ways other shapes cannot. Hands-on activities helped the students better understand how these shapes are used in everyday structures, such as bridges and support frameworks, and how they contribute to design solutions worldwide.

The event was a fantastic opportunity for our Year 7 students to connect with the practical side of geometry and structural engineering, nurturing both their problem-solving and teamwork skills. Many thanks to MEBP for inspiring the next generation of STEM enthusiasts – we look forward to more innovative sessions that make learning both fun and impactful!





This past Tuesday, we joined together in a simple yet powerful way for **Anti-Bullying Week** by celebrating **Odd Socks Day**! It was inspiring to see so many people proudly wearing mismatched socks, a visible reminder that differences are something to embrace, not judge. From bold patterns to quirky colours, each pair symbolised our commitment to respect, inclusion, and kindness for everyone, regardless of their background or views.



Odd Socks Day wasn't just about making a statement against bullying – it was also a chance to bring attention to **men's mental health**. Men often face pressure to "stay strong," making it hard to talk about issues like bullying or mental health challenges. Through this event, we highlighted the importance of recognising and supporting everyone's mental well-being, encouraging open conversations and respect for each person's unique journey.



Thank you to everyone who took part in this meaningful day. By simply wearing odd socks, we showed our support for a kinder, more inclusive world. Let's continue to foster respect, celebrate our differences, and ensure that no one feels alone. Together, we're making a difference, one odd sock at a time.

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2024

Monday 11th to Friday 15th November

CHOOSE RESPECT
#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

ODD SOCKS DAY 2024
Tuesday 12th November

#OddSocksDay #ChooseRespect

Odd Socks day on Tuesday 12th November...let's show our support for difference...difference of opinion... and RESPECT for others!





CHRISTMAS GIFTBAG APPEAL

Help us make Christmas a little brighter for those who need it most
Fill a giftbag with useful items and small gifts for the homeless

1 FIND AN EMPTY GIFTBAG

2 MAKE YOUR BAG LOOK CHRISTMASSY

Please label clearly whether for a man or woman, adult or child.

3 FILL IT WITH USEFUL GIFTS

Suggested items to include:

Hat, gloves, scarf, boxers, socks (thermal if poss), shampoo, comb, shower gel/body wash, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, lip balm, tissues, wet wipes, torch (pref wind up type), note pad, pens, pencils, playing cards, chocolate, sweets, cereal bars, toys, teddy

4

DROP OFF YOUR BAG TO MAIN RECEPTION

Please arrange for drop off by Friday, 13th December



GOLDEN TICKET

During each lesson, our students have the opportunity to receive a Golden Ticket. This Golden Ticket can be received for going 'above-and-beyond' during the lesson. These Golden Tickets are collected in our Main Reception and a portion of the ticket is also taken home so parents/carers can recognise this immense achievement as well.

The tickets are collected in boxes in each of the students Houses and tallied at the end of the academic year. The House that collects the most gets points added to the House Championship total for their House as they compete for the Laurel Cup.

But it doesn't stop there!

At the end of the academic year, all of the Golden Tickets will also be collected by Year Group where a Prize Draw will take place. Each year group were asked what they would like the opportunity to win, and the prizes by year group are listed below. The more Golden Tickets each student receives, the greater their opportunity is to win! Good luck!

Year 7



£200 bike

2 x £100
Amazon
Vouchers



Year 8

*voted for 2 winners

Year 9



£200 JD
Voucher

£200

Amazon
Voucher



Year 10

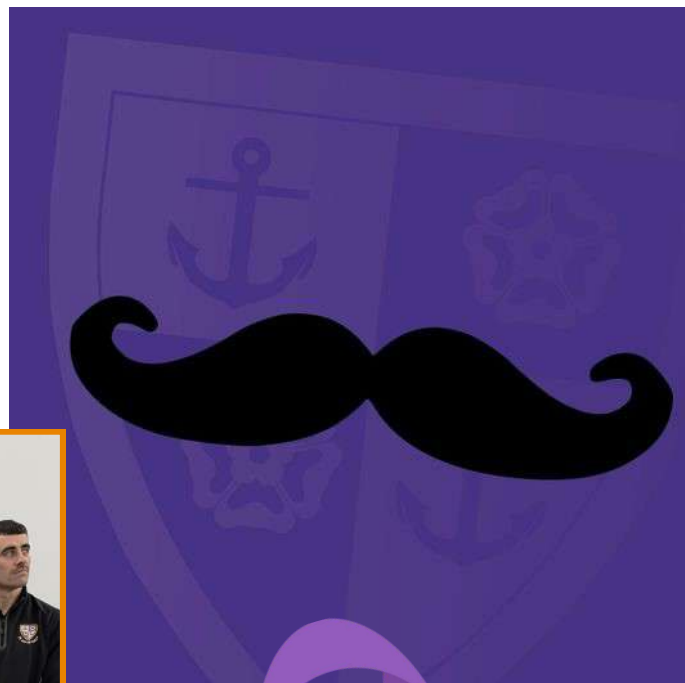
Year 11



PlayStation 5

This initiative would not be possible without the support from our good friends at 'Camfil'.



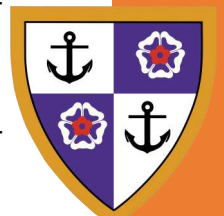


We're now two weeks into Movember, and the team's moustaches are growing in strong! Mr Webb, Mr Murphy, Mr Cooper, Mr Julian, Mr Halsey, Mr Bond, Mr Edwards, Mr Manny, Mr Knights, Mr Hillier, Mr Doe, Mr Flack, Mr Woolmer, and Mr Loftus have all committed to this meaningful cause. The moustaches are shaping up nicely, and each one symbolises our collective dedication to raising funds and awareness for *Pancreatic Cancer UK* and mental health.

This initiative is close to our hearts, as we're doing this in memory of our dear colleague, Mr Mark Humphrys, who lost his life to pancreatic cancer a few years ago. This challenge is our way of honouring his memory, supporting those affected by this disease, and shining a light on mental health issues too often kept in the dark.

We invite you to follow our progress and join us in supporting this essential cause. Each donation, no matter the amount, goes directly to Pancreatic Cancer UK to fuel vital research and support services. If you'd like to contribute, please visit our [JustGiving](#) page.

Together, let's make a difference. Thank you for your ongoing support and encouragement – let's keep these 'taches growing!





ART CLUB a Starry Night by Vincent Van Gogh



Our recent art club gathering was a huge success, showcasing the incredible talents of our members. Participants came together to create stunning artwork that reflects both individual creativity and the power of collaboration. From vibrant colours to intricate details, each piece tells a story and highlights the fantastic effort put in by everyone involved.

A massive thank you to all who attended and contributed to making this session so memorable. Your hard work and enthusiasm have truly brought this project to life. Well done, everyone – we can't wait to see what you'll create next!





Meet Your Head of House



Mr. Edwards

Ms. Samuels

Ms. Anglin

Mr. Dunn

Ms. Mulrooney

ATTENBOROUGH



HAWKING



ATTENBOROUGH



HAWKING



PANKHURST



TULL



TURING



PANKHURST



TULL



TURING



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree', using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening: that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel..." or "I think..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused the upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each other.

9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

10 REFLECT AND LEARN

After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

Meet Our Expert

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.



The National College



PE @ The Howard School








Our student of the week for last week



JB Year 9 has been nominated for last weeks 'Student of the week' by Mr Murphy. JB has shown key qualities that has seen his start to life as a KS4 sport student be a very successful one. JB has demonstrated hard work, commitment and perseverance to ensure his work is of a high standard and also the work of his peers. Top work JB!

What are we currently offering as extra curricular?

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
KS4 Intervention	Year 8 Training 	Rugby Year 9 	Boxing All years 	Basketball Years 11 - 13 
Football Years 7 - 9 	Gym Years 10 - 13 	Gym Years 10 - 13 	Rugby Years 7 & 8 	Gym Years 10 - 13 
Gym Years 10 - 13 		Basketball Years 7 & 8 	Basketball Year 9 & 10 	
		Table Tennis All Years 	Gym Years 10 - 13 	



PE @ The Howard School



The last week in pictures





PE @ The Howard School



Results and up coming fixtures



Year 9 v Greenacre (H)

Our Year 9 team took on a strong Greenacre side last week. What started off as a cagey affair soon became a routine win for the boys. On a pitch that proved difficult for both teams, The Howard were able to use their pace in attack to win the game 4 nil. Goals from, LE, MM, NA and GT. GT was nominated as Man of the Match by the on watching Sixth formers with a very impressive performance at Right Back.



Year 7 v Kemnal (A)

Travelling away to Kemnal Technology College the boys battled well from the off, finding their feet playing together as a newly formed team. A well taken goal from MG put The Howard 1-0 up going into the Half Time break. The 2nd half saw the side go through the gears creating many superb chances through great pieces of play but just lacking the final finish. SK made the breakthrough with an impressive first time finish after good work by JH who would also go on to add the third. The hosts equalised through an error common in new teams getting to know one another. Despite this the boys showed great resilience as MG scored another 2 to complete his hat trick and round off a superb first outing for the Year 7 B football team. POTM - MG for an impressive hat trick.





PE @ The Howard School



Results and up coming fixtures



Year 7 Kent Cup v Borden Grammar



Our year 7 team travelled to Sittingbourne to take on a very strong Borden Grammar School. After an impressive run of victories, the Year 7 team went into the fixture full of confidence. However, were met by a stronger outfit on the day, losing 7 – 4. The boys showed resilience to keep trying to find ways to score but fell short. Special mention to LS who scored an impressive 4 goals including 3 very impressive strikes from long range.



Upcoming Fixtures for THS Teams



Friday 15th Nov

Yr 9 Rugby Kent Cup SF



Monday 18th Nov

Yr 10 Football



Thursday 21st Nov

Yr 7/8 Rugby



Catch our newsletter in the coming weeks to see how all of our teams get on

kickly.net



PE @ The Howard School



Calling all Students, Parents and Guardians

We are always on the look out for kit donations. If you have any of the following at home that are old, don't fit or you simply don't use, we would love to add them to our spare kit selection.



- Trainers
- Astroturf trainers
- Football Boots



- Old PE Kit (Shorts, Polo, Purple Tops, Blue Jumpers)



Please feel free to
drop them into the
PE office or hand
to your PE teacher





Mr. J Johal - Principal
johalj@thehowardschool.co.uk
01634 388765 ext. 3004