

Ackton Pastures Primary Academy

College Grove,
Castleford,
West Yorkshire
WF10 5NS
Telephone: 01977 802322
Email: ap-enquiries@inspirepartnership.org.uk



Headteacher: Mrs K. Mason
Chair of Governors: Mrs H. Causier
Safeguarding Officers: Mrs K. Mason
Miss H. Bartle
Miss C. Woodhouse
Mrs D. White

'Children at the heart; Inspiring futures'

Friday 24th October

Dear Parents and Carers,

Playground Leaders and Reading Ambassadors

Congratulations to the following children who are newly selected Reading Ambassadors, Evie, Alice, Hollie, Pippa, Remi, Jessi, Evie, Isabella, Sophie, San Ambrose,

Our Library has had a revamp and is looking stunning. It really is a lovely environment for children to enjoy reading in.

Our new playground equipment is in the new Tesco funded sheds and will be available for the children to use after half term, closely supervised by our playground leaders, who will be announced after the holidays.

Parking

We have multiple complaints about the parking around school. Please be considerate when parking around school ensuring that you leave plenty of room for local residents to access their driveways and for pedestrians, especially those with pushchairs and wheelchairs, on the pavement. After half term the school council will be patrolling so be aware!

Curriculum After School Clubs

Miss Gibbins is doing a dance club for KS2 starting 12/11/25 through to 10/12/25. Arbor will be open for bookings today (Friday 24th) from 3pm.

Elite clubs have changed and again are available to book through Arbor for the full 7 weeks, again from 3pm today.

The Elite after school clubs this half term are;
Football and Rugby for Reception and Key Stage 1 on Tuesday
Ball Games for Key Stage 2 on Wednesday
Dance for Key Stage 1, Year 3 and Year 4 on Thursday.

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who came to family consultations this week, it was lovely to see everyone in school and to hear all the positive comments about school and staff in school. Nursery children and grown ups enjoyed a lovely pumpkin picking and carving session yesterday and raised an amazing total of £217 to go towards the refurbishment of our Nursery outdoor area.

On behalf of all the staff and governors in school, thank you for all your support this half

The Headteacher is the designated person for all child protection issues

term and we'll see you back in school on Tuesday 4th November.

Dates for your Diary

Friday 24th October	Break up for Half Term
Monday 3rd November	Inset Day
Tuesday 4rd November	Return to School
Monday 10th November	RWI parents information meeting for Reception and KS1 parents 9.00am in hall KS1 parents may stay to watch a speed sounds session
10th - 14th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Friday 14th November	Non-Uniform day for Christmas Fair (More details to follow)
Monday 17th November	New to school open evening 4pm
Tuesday 18th November	SEND Coffee Morning 9.00am (By invitation from Miss Brown only).
Friday 5th December	Christmas Fair - 2pm start
Tuesday 9th December	KS1 Nativity - 2pm start
Wednesday 10th December	KS1 Nativity - 9.30am start
Thursday 11th December	Reception Nativity - 9.30am and 2.00pm
Friday 12th December	Reindeer Run Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
Wednesday 17th December	Christmas Dinner
Thursday 18th December	KS2 Christmas Concert 9.15am and 2.15pm

Attendance this week	
Reception – Miss Ayling	96%
Reception – Mr Smith	92%
Year 1 – Miss Wilson	98%
Year 1/2 – Miss Binns	93%
Year 2 – Mrs Turfrey	97%
Year 3 – Miss Blakeway	95%
Year 3/4 - Miss Gibbins	95%
Year 4 – Miss Holding	93%
Year 5 – Mrs Longoni	95%
Year 5/6 – Miss Lynch	90%
Year 6 – Miss Woodhouse	93%

Have a lovely weekend!

Miss Bartle
Acting Headteacher

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Light Up 2025

Start the festive season in style as we light up the Wakefield District this November!

Bring your family and friends to **Light Up Wakefield** to experience a **light trail** like no other. For 3 days you can see more installations than ever before across Wakefield City Centre! Start your adventure at the Event Hub in [WX Wakefield Exchange](#) and pick up a free trail map to locate all the art installations appearing across the city. Unleash your imagination at 'Let's Draw' where you can create designs for an ever-changing digital mural. Let the Norse mythology inspired 'Ship of the Gods' take your breath away. Step into the 'Rhythm of Rhubarb' a surreal, otherworldly landscape where giant rhubarb stalks will pulse, ripple and glow. Journey through dreamscapes with 'Rever', a vivid symphony of radiance and sound. All this and so much more awaits you!

Enjoy the best of what the autumnal season has to offer with cosy, community-centred **Christmas Light Switch On's** in **Castleford**, **Ossett** and **Pontefract**. As the sun sets you can enjoy festive markets where traders will be offering a wide range of goodies and see entertaining live performances taking place on the main stage. There will also be delicious street food and drink, fun fringe activities from our partners before the pièce de résistance – the official switch-on and illumination of our town centres!

[Light Up Wakefield](#) Friday 21 – Sunday 23 November, Times Vary, Wakefield City Centre
[Light Up Castleford](#) Tuesday 25 November, 12pm-6pm, Castleford Town Centre,
[Light Up Ossett](#) Saturday 29 November, 12pm-7pm, Ossett Town Centre,
[Light Up Pontefract](#) Sunday 30 November, 12pm-6pm, Pontefract Town Centre

For more information about each event, including travel and accessibility information, please visit: [Light Up 2025 | Experience Wakefield](#)



Attendance Matters

Arrive on Time



Every school day counts, arriving a few minutes late a day can mean days of learning is lost over the school year. It is very important that your child is on time for school.

5 minutes late per day
=
3 days of learning lost in a year

10 minutes late per day
=
6.5 days of learning lost in a year

15 minutes late per day
=
10 days of learning lost in a year

20 minutes late per day
=
13 days of learning lost in a year

30 minutes late per day
=
19 days of learning lost in a year

L code = Late arrival after classroom doors close at 9am

U code = Late arrival after registers close at 9.10am (Unauthorised absence)

An accumulation of 10 U codes over a 10 week period can result in a Fixed Penalty Notice from the Local Authority for Irregular Attendance

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PENALTY NOTICE FINES FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE ARE CHANGING!

With the introduction of the New National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force on 19th August 2024.

PENALTY NOTICES WILL BE ISSUED FOR

Term time leave: Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days

10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period: A Penalty Notice may be considered/issued when a pupil has had 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week* period.

*School Week's

PER PARENT/PER CHILD

Penalty Notice Fines will continue to be issued per parent per child.

For example: 3 Siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

FIRST OFFENCE

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for a Term Time Holiday or Irregular School Attendance the Penalty Notice will be charged at:

£160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days of issue, reducing to £80 if paid within 21 days**.

SECOND OFFENCE (within 3 years of the First Offence)

Where it is deemed appropriate to issue a second Penalty Notice to the same parent for the same pupil within 3 years of the first notice, the second Penalty Notice will be charged at:

£160 if paid within 28 days (no reduced fee for paying early).

(**Unpaid Penalty Notice's after 28 days may result in a parental prosecution)

THIRD OFFENCE (within 3 years of the First Offence)

On the third time that an offence is committed for either a Term Time Holiday and / or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, the case may proceed straight to Parental Prosecution under the Single Justice Procedure. If found guilty of the offence of 'Failure to send a child to school' the Magistrates can impose a fine up to £1000.

ONE LIFE

PHYSICAL FITNESS | SOCIAL FITNESS | MENTAL FITNESS

Our Morning Routine explained:



Safe Touch:

Each morning children choose a safe touch to meet and greet their teacher (high five, hand shake or hug) and this is proven to help children feel valued, create a sense of belonging as well as releasing oxytocin, the loving hormone.



Thought Splat/Journaling:

After we have taken the register, we all complete a thought splat in our journals which helps us to write down any thoughts that might be stopping us from being present and our best selves. We want children to know that 'we are not our thoughts' and that not all thoughts are facts. Our minds are powerful and we must choose to pay attention to the positives thoughts because our thoughts affect our emotions which affects how we behave and 'show up' in our lives. We tick and cross our thoughts so we can make space to learn !



Mindful Minute:

Once we have cleared some space in our busy minds, we then pay attention to our bodies and think about our nervous system. We are teaching the children that we have two main 'modes' and we want our children to be in parasympathetic mode which means calm, regulated and when we preserve energy to concentrate and learn. We can't learn when we are in state of high alert (fight, flight or freeze) so we practise breath work to ensure that our nervous system is calm.



Affirmations:

Once the children are calm, we set our intentions for the day. We choose positive I am statements so our minds are being filled with goodness. I am loved. I am safe. I am enough. We are what we think!



Wise Words:

We end our morning routine with some wise words which help us to grow personally and reflect on inspiring quotes and messages. We want to feed our children with goodness so they know better, so they can do better in their ONE LIFE!