



Weekly Family Newsletter

Monday 8th March 2021

www.halfwaynurseryinfantschool.org

Caring, Sharing, Learning for Life.

Welcome back! It has been great to see our children back in school again today... to say that we are incredibly proud of them is an understatement! Their faces were beaming as they walked across the yard this morning - many of them in new shoes and slighter bigger uniform (as they have grown so much since December!) - and they have settled back into school again in no time at all. The children who have been attending in lockdown have coped so well today too and have loved to see their friends again. Well done children! Superstars!

Wonderful World Book Day

We had a fantastic day last Thursday didn't we?! It was wonderful to see children both at home and school join in with the PJ Bedtime Story day, story activities/learning, and, last but most definitely not least, the most amazing Book Bake Competition EVER!!!

It looked like you had so much fun making your Book Bakes at home (and they looked absolutely delicious, so I bet you all enjoyed eating them!). The staff got together on Zoom after school on World Book Day to go through our new risk assessment for wider school opening, and we also spent time looking at our Twitter page to celebrate the brilliance of both the children's entries and the support of our school community. Despite all that is going on, parents/children/staff still embrace everything that is thrown your way - whether it is the world of Zoom, Tapestry and then a baking competition thrown in for good measure. You're all amazing. Thank you.

The staff were so relieved that we weren't judging the competition as it would have been an impossible task! After much deliberation and consideration of the creativity, effort, story related links and level of child independence in our entries, our committed governors (and very brave for offering to judge it!) finally chose their winners....

Drum roll please, Mr Beazer.....>



Nursery category - **Sammy** (The Hungry Caterpillar)

Foundation Stage 2—**Amelia** (Christopher Pumpkin)

Year 1 - **Skyla** (Rainbow Fish)

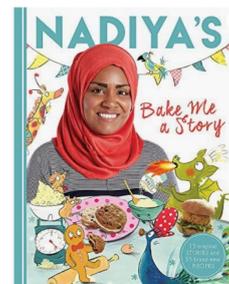
Year 2 - **Ollie** (Superworm)

The winners listed above have all won a copy of a very special baking book - 'Bake me a Story'. This is a combination of storybook and cookbook with story themed recipes created by a previous Bake Off winner, Nadiya e.g. pumpkin and spice flapjacks for Cinderella.

The great British public also chose their staff winner on Twitter, and Miss Wylie stole the show with her Handa's Surprise bake! Well done to Miss Wylie and her children - this must have taken hours too!!!

We think all our children could be upcoming Bake Off stars of the future though, and unanimously agree that all entries have also won a small prize for their Book Bakes too - the children's efforts were exceptional!

A big thank you also goes out to the baker of the rainbow coloured Elmer cake entry and our English Curriculum Lead, Mrs Timmons, for organising this fantastic day!



Getting Back to School Safely

There is a 'live' link to relevant information for parents/carers from Sheffield City Council regarding the full re-opening of schools that you may find helpful at www.sheffield.gov.uk/backtoschoolsafely. Please help us stay safe in school too by...

- Reinforcing social distancing rules on the yard/paths outside school and also outside the school day.
- Only arriving at your child's start/end time to avoid crowds gathering outside the school gates (if you arrive in a car, please stay in your car until your child's start/end time)
- Please also help to keep our staff and your child safe by sending him/her to school in clothes that do not require adult help e.g. elasticated waist trousers if your child cannot manage buttons and zips independently, Velcro shoes etc. Wherever staff and children can reduce unnecessary contact with one another this will help to reduce spread of infection.
- Only bring essential items into school such as a water bottle and book bag each day. Children are not allowed to take toys from home into school or nursery and we are still unable to share items you bring in with other households, such as birthday buns/sweets etc. I'm sorry if this sounds harsh as we know birthdays are super special days, but the risk assessment from the council makes it clear that sharing food is not allowed in order to help to keep your children safe and to minimise risk.
- If your child is not well, please keep him/her at home. Please be aware that the new variant can cause cold like symptoms too, so please be extra cautious.
- If your child receives a positive test result, please inform us as soon as possible so we can identify and inform his/her contacts with as much notice as possible. If you are informed of a positive test result out of office hours, so cannot speak to someone in person in the office, please email us on enquiries@halfway-inf.sheffield.sch.uk as we check this for urgent Covid-19 notifications out of hours and at weekends.

Asymptomatic testing information for parents and adults in households with children at school or college

NHS Test and Trace has announced that all adults in households with school and college age children without symptoms can now access regular rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing.

Test kits can either be collected or ordered online (instruction below for you to arrange this as primary schools cannot order test kits for this purpose). NB - Secondary school and college students will continue to access testing through their school or college.

The DfE has asked schools to share the information below with you to help answer any questions you may have.

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus. Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are different ways for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice a week:

- through your employer, if they offer testing to employees
- by collecting a home test kit from a local test site – anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests
- by ordering a home test kit online (but please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, as this frees up home delivery for those who need it most).

If you have any queries about the tests, and you live in England, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm.

Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a test.

Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible.

Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. The DfE state that getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

Red Nose Day - 'Laughing and learning!'

Friday 19th March

As Red Nose Day 2021 approaches, there has never been a better time to make a difference, no matter how big or small.

Comic Relief funds hundreds of amazing organisations which are working on the ground to support the most vulnerable people and communities in society, including many of those hardest hit by the coronavirus crisis. This includes vulnerable children and young people, people who are homeless or who have been forced to flee their homes, women and families at risk of domestic abuse, and those struggling with existing or new mental health problems.

We would love your support this Red Nose Day, whether that is through fundraising or simply raising a smile.

In the words of one of the founders, Lenny Henry: "The big day might look a bit different this year, but your laughter really will change lives."

Our plans are simple this year...

- **Dress in red day on Fri 19th March** and donate online, where you can, to Red Nose Day
- **Red Nose Day quiz in school** - our School Council representatives will be helping organise a class Red Nose Day quiz, with our classes competing against each other to try and win the most points! The children in the class with the most points will all win a Red Nose Day related prize!

Remote fundraising

We have set up a Just Giving page for those who feel they are able to contribute financially, but please do not worry if you are not able to, we just want all the children to have fun and enjoy the day! You'll find the page for making a donation at <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/halfway-nursery-infant-school-rednoseday21>

Thank you again for your support and for following all the rules etc. that continue to come your way!

By working together and following the guidance, we can try and keep everyone in school as safe and as happy as we can.

Paula Bestall

Headteacher

Appendix:

School meals

The lunch menu from 8th March is attached at the back to this newsletter for your information. The dates corresponding to each week number are shown below:

| | Week 1 | Week 2 | Week 3 | |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|--|
| 1 March | | | ✓ | |
| 8 March | ✓ | | | |
| 15 March | | ✓ | | |
| 22 March | | | ✓ | |
| 29 March | ✓ | | | (School closed on the Friday - Good Friday) |
| 5 April | | ✓ | | (School closed all week - Easter holiday) |
| 12 April | | | ✓ | (School closed all week - Easter holiday) |
| 19 April | ✓ | | | |
| 26 April | | ✓ | | |
| 3 May | | | ✓ | (School closed on the Monday - bank holiday) |
| 10 May | ✓ | | | |
| 17 May | | ✓ | | |
| 24 May | | | ✓ | |
| 31 May | ✓ | | | (School closed all week - Spring Bank holiday half-term) |
| 7 June | | ✓ | | |
| 14 June | | | ✓ | |
| 21 June | ✓ | | | |
| 28 June | | ✓ | | |
| 5 July | | | ✓ | |
| 12 July | ✓ | | | |
| 19 July | | ✓ | | (School only open on the Monday and the Tuesday) |

We will be able to continue to provide free school meal support to pupils who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals who need to learn at home during term time because of isolation due to Covid-19. If your child cannot attend school at the moment due to needing to isolate but they are eligible for income based free school meals, please contact the school office to order a weekly food parcel.

| | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| MEK ONE | | | | | |
| Main Course | Traditional Sausage & Mash with Gravy | Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Half Jacket Potato | Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes, Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy | Homemade Beef & Onion Pie with Mashed potato & Gravy | Fish Fingers and Chips with Tomato Ketchup |
| Jacket Potato & Filling | Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans & Tuna Mayo | Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans & Salmon Mayo | Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans & Tuna Mayo | Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans & Tuna Mayo | Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans & Salmon Mayo |
| Sandwiches | Cheese | Cheese | Cheese | Cheese | Cheese |
| Sandwiches | Ham | Ham | Ham | Ham | Ham |
| Vegetables | Peas | Broccoli | Sweetcorn | Carrots | Baked Beans |
| Dessert | Ginger Sponge & Custard | Flapjack | Chocolate Sponge | Vanilla Sponge & Custard | Shortbread Biscuit |
| MEK TWO | | | | | |
| Main Course | Beef Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Pasta | Chicken Curry with Wholegrain Rice | Roast Chicken with Stuffing, Mashed Potato & Gravy | Beef Pasta | Fish Fingers and Chips & Tomato Ketchup |
| Jacket Potato & Filling | Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans & Tuna Mayo | Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans & Tuna Mayo | Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans & Tuna Mayo | Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans & Tuna Mayo | Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans & Tuna Mayo |
| Sandwiches | Cheese | Cheese | Cheese | Cheese | Cheese |
| Sandwiches | Ham | Ham | Ham | Ham | Ham |
| Vegetables | Garden Peas | Sweetcorn | Carrots | Garden Peas | Baked Beans |
| Dessert | Hot Chocolate Fudge Cake with Custard | Shortbread | Lemon Drizzle Cake | Sponge & Custard | Ginger Muffin |
| MEK THREE | | | | | |
| Main Course | Beef Burger in a Bun | Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Half Jacket Potato | Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes, Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy | Homemade Chicken Pie & Mash | Fish Fingers and Chips with Tomato Ketchup |
| Jacket Potato & Filling | Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans & Tuna Mayo | Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans & Tuna Mayo | Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans & Tuna Mayo | Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans & Tuna Mayo | Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans & Salmon Mayo |
| Sandwiches | Cheese | Cheese | Cheese | Cheese | Cheese |
| Sandwiches | Ham | Ham | Ham | Ham | Ham |
| Vegetables | Garden Peas | Sweetcorn | Carrots | Broccoli | Garden Peas |
| Dessert | Apple Sponge & Custard | Lemon Slice | Chocolate Crunch | Marble Sponge & Custard | Crunchy Biscuit |