



Weekly Family Newsletter

Monday 7th June 2021

www.halfwaynurseryinfantschool.org

Caring, Sharing, Learning for Life.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
What's Happening this Week?	F2 Big PE day	F2: School Nursing Service: height, weight and hearing checks	Y2 Big PE day	Y1 Big PE day	
And Next Week ?	F2 Big PE day		Y2 Big PE day	Y1 Big PE day	



Attendance for the week ending 28th May 2021

Class	Attendance (%)
Enormous Crocodiles	100
Crafty Chameleons	95.8
Rainbow Fish	96.4
Hungry Caterpillars	96.8
Gruffalos	99.2
Elmers	96.1

Overall attendance for the week was 97.4%

Some Key Dates

Wednesday 9th June	Y2 Big PE Day (note the change of day)
Thursday 10th May	Y1 Big PE Day (note the change of day)



Changes to PE Days this half term

Please note the following changes to the PE days for Y1 and Y2 children:

Y2 - Wednesday - Dance with Jess

Y1 - Thursday - Games/Athletics with Rich

Here's hoping the summer has really arrived!

I hope you all enjoyed the half term holiday last week. Wasn't the weather fantastic!

As the summer does seem to be here at last, please can we take this opportunity to share a few simple but important steps to make sure children and adults are safe in the sun, as recommended by the NHS - <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/sunscreen-and-sun-safety/>.

Sun safety tips

- Spend time in the shade when the sun is strongest. In the UK, this is between 11am and 3pm, from March to October.
- Never burn.
- Cover up with suitable clothing and sunglasses.
- Take extra care with children.
- Wear a high factor sunscreen with both UVA and UVB protection.
- Wear suitable clothing, and spend time in the shade when the sun is at its hottest.

To help us keep your child safe in the sun at school, we ask you please to support us by -

- ⇒ **Applying a high factor sun screen/sunblock** (with a high UVA and UVB rating – the higher the rating, the better) to your child before nursery/school. Whilst we take precautions to limit sun exposure and offer shady spaces, the children's learning takes place both inside and outside. In addition to this, you may also provide additional sunscreen for your child (which should be clearly labelled with your child's name and kept in a bag on his/her peg please), as we can encourage children to re-apply this over the course of the day.
- ⇒ **Bringing a sun hat for your child to wear** (a wider brim protects their neck/ears), with his/her name inside.
- ⇒ **Providing your child with a bottle filled with fresh water each day** to keep him/her hydrated.
- ⇒ **Dressing your child in clothes that cover and protect the skin** e.g. that cover shoulders and legs.

At school, we also teach the children about sun safety, and provide areas of shade from the sun and limit the amount of time they spend outside in spells of warm weather. We also ensure that children always have access to water to help to keep them hydrated. If we are concerned that a child is not wearing sun protection, such a hat/sunscreen, and correct clothing, we will respond appropriately to help keep them safe. For example, whilst we cannot share sunscreen, due to allergies, we may limit outdoor play to ensure his/her safety.

If you have queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to come and speak to me or a member of staff.

Also, if your child suffers from hay fever, could you please ensure he/she comes to school with packets of tissues to keep with him/her for comfort.

Rose Cottage Nursing and Residential Care Home

Could we please ask that you do not park in the car park of Rose Cottage unless you are actually visiting Rose Cottage itself. Access for emergency vehicles, and parking for visitors (who may be called to the Home at any time) must be maintained at all times.

Thank you for your help in supporting the invaluable and vital work of our neighbours.

Please nominate us so we have the chance to win £5000 of reading books!

Win £5,000 for your school

Fill the library with new books!

A good school library isn't just important for academic achievement. Reading for pleasure also improves children's wellbeing – something our children need now more than ever before.

Our big prize draw is back, giving you the chance to win £5,000/€5,000 of National Book Tokens for your school's library – and if your entry is picked, you'll also get £100/€120 of National Book Tokens to spend on yourself!

Find out about other previous winners, and enter this year's competition, below. The closing date is Saturday 31st July 2021, and the winner will be announced in the autumn term.



https://www.nationalbooktokens.com/schools?utm_source=nbt&utm_medium=email&utm_content=schools-prize-teachers&utm_campaign=20210506_schools

VEGPOWER

The last newsletter included information about the Veg Power programme. Before the half term break, your child should have brought home a Veg Power reward chart and sticker pack.

Each week features a rally cry around one of Britain's family favourite vegetables. The stickers in the pack are to reward the children who give them a try, and, hopefully, are encouraged to keep eating the featured vegetable.

This week's vegetable is the **TOMATO** (actually a fruit, of course, but it still counts!!).

Next week's featured vegetable is sweetcorn.

Beat the Street Campaign

Our school (but unfortunately not our nursery) has been invited by Sheffield City Council to take part in the Beat the Street Challenge! This is what the organisers say:

“Sheffield is being transformed into a giant community-wide challenge – and you're invited to take part! Join your child's school team and help it earn points, get active and win prizes in this fun, free, six-week walking, cycling and rolling game!

The game runs from 16 June to 28 July – visit beatthestreet.me/Sheffield to find out more.”



We'll be giving the children information about how to join in before 16th June, so look out for it.

Transition in preparation for September

We have lots of fun learning planned for the last half term of the academic year and, whilst we will still be very much focusing on the 'here and now' in our teaching and learning, we also have a mind to September as we want to ensure we have plans in place to prepare the children for their next steps. We know that moving onto the next class or onto a new school is a really exciting time, but we also appreciate that the children can also need a little additional reassurance to help them prepare for the change. We want you to know that we are here to support wherever we can to help ensure transition is a happy and positive experience!

Transition needs to look a little different again this year due to the guidance schools are following to keep their community safe during the pandemic (for example, Sheffield schools have been advised to limit physical transition and find alternative ways of delivering transition e.g. through virtual events where possible). Despite this, everyone is committed to making sure that both children and parents/carers feel as confident as possible about the next steps - whether this is within our school, or between schools.

In school transition

In line with all schools, our staffing plans are in the process of being finalised. We shall be able to share information over the next few weeks about your child's class teacher from September, and the final arrangements for transition.

Please be assured that there will be an opportunity for your child to meet his/her new F1-Y2 teacher/s next half term and for all the relevant information to be shared with you in preparation for the move to the new year group. All transition activities will follow the most up to date risk assessment and safety guidance for schools (update expected later this week).

We shall also be preparing videos and pen portraits of staff that you and your child will be able to view on our website as much as you would like to at home over the summer holiday :-)

Teachers have also planned dedicated time to share information with new class teachers about how super your children are so they too can prepare for September. If your child is moving from our Nursery onto a different school in your catchment area, or from Y2 to Y3, we shall also contact new class teachers/schools to share key information to ensure a smooth transition between schools.

Y2 to Y3 transition

Mr Walker, the Acting Head at Halfway Junior School, dropped Y3 transition packs off this afternoon for children due to move to Halfway Junior School this September. These packs will be sent home with our Y3-to-be children tomorrow (so please check book bags tomorrow night!).

The packs explain this year's transition arrangements to Y3 and include key information, including details of an online meeting and virtual tour to find out about school and class teachers etc.

If your child is due to move to a different school in Y3, that school will be in touch with you directly to share its transition arrangements. We shall, of course, support wherever we can to ensure that transition is a safe, happy and successful one.

New starters in our Nursery and F2 in September

Very similar processes are in place for children who will be new to our nursery or F2 in September. We have sent letters to welcome new families to nursery/school and will also be sharing transition packs with our new starters, along with information about online welcome meetings etc.

Our F2 staff will be making visits to our nursery (and making individual phone calls home for children who are completely new in September, as we are unable to conduct home visits this year due to the current restrictions).

Our nursery team will also be in touch with our new nursery starters to arrange for them to visit nursery for the first time to 'Meet the Teacher' and pick up transition packs.

Watch this space—more information to follow !

Continuing to help our school community during the COVID pandemic

Children must not come to school if they have displayed symptoms of COVID 19 (until they have received a negative PCR test) or if someone else in the household is symptomatic/is awaiting test results/has received a positive test result etc.

If your child has been identified as a contact of someone who has now tested positive and, therefore, has been instructed to isolate at home they must not enter the school site. If you have a child in our school who needs to isolate, remember that home learning is available via your Tapestry account. If you are unable to access this due to a lack of devices at home please inform us asap!

Food boxes are also available for children who are eligible for Free School Meals and who need to isolate at home.

Please remember - you are not alone! Whether you need help with finances due to the impact of the pandemic, help with medication due to isolation, bereavement support, or if you need support with food or housing for your family etc. there are services out there that can help you. Please go to <https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/your-city-council/coronavirus-hub/support-for-people> or come and speak to someone in school. We really do want to help and will do so wherever we can.

Kindest regards,

Paula Bestall