



Weekly Family Newsletter

Monday 2nd March 2020

www.halfwaynurseryinfantschool.org

Caring, Sharing, Learning for Life.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
What's Happening this Week?	1-3 pm F2 Big PE 3pm Karate After School Club 3pm Choir After School Club	3pm Gardening After School Club	1-3 pm Y2 Big PE 3pm Disney Ballet After School Club	World Book Day - includes visit to the assembly by local author, Helen Stokes. 1-3 pm Y1 Big PE 3pm Football After School Club	9am Birthday Assembly 3pm Pop Song and Dance After School Club
And Next Week ?	1-3 pm F2 Big PE 3pm Karate After School Club 3pm Choir After School Club	3pm Gardening After School Club	1-3 pm Y2 Big PE 3pm Disney Ballet After School Club	1-3 pm Y1 Big PE 3pm Football After School Club	3pm Pop Song and Dance After School Club



Attendance for the week ending 28th February 2020

Class	Attendance (%)
Enormous Crocodiles	97.9
Crafty Chameleons	99.7
Rainbow Fish	97.2
Hungry Caterpillars	100
Gruffalos	98.5
Elmers	98.7

Overall attendance for the week was 98.7%

Upcoming Diary Dates



Thursday 5th March

World Book Day—children in F2, Y1 and Y2 are welcome to come into school dressed as their favourite character from a story book. Nursery is having its own bedtime story day on Thursday—PJs at the ready!

Friday 6th March, 9am

March Birthday Assembly for parents/carers with March born children

Thursday 19th March

Rescheduled visit by local poet and author Conrad Burdekin



World Book Day - 5th March

World Book Day—children in F2, Y1 and Y2 are welcome to come into school dressed as their favourite character from a story book. Nursery is having its own bedtime story day—PJs at the ready!



Assembly Visit by local author

Helen Stokes, headteacher at Waterthorpe Infant School has kindly volunteered to come to our assembly to talk to the children. Mrs Stokes is also the author of a series of children's books about a little fox and his friends, who explore different areas around Sheffield. If you would like to find out more about Helen's stories, please go to www.littleurbanfoxandfriends.co.uk.

Times Table Rockstars



When it comes to times tables, speed AND accuracy are important – the more facts your child remembers, the easier it is for them to do harder calculations. Times Table Rock Stars is a fun and challenging programme designed to help children master their times tables!

The children in Y1 and Y2 have been introduced to the Times Table Rockstars games in school as part of their Maths lessons. However you can also access this game from home simply by visiting <https://play.ttrockstars.com/> and filling in your child's login details or you can also download an App for the Iphone/Ipad or Android App through which your child may practise. Letters were sent home before Christmas with individual login details. If you are unsure of your child's login please ask your class teacher or see Mrs Jordan for their details so that you can enjoy this game from home.

Thank you for your support and I am sure your hard work and theirs will have a direct impact and make them a Times Table Rock Star!

Mrs Jordan

Sponsored Reading Challenge

To celebrate World Book Day and promote reading with our children, our Friends of HNIS Group is holding a Sponsored Read. This will take place between Saturday 29 February and Sunday 8 March. The children will be doing extra reading every day in school, and we are asking you to support the sponsored read by helping your child spend a small amount of time each day either reading to themselves, to others, or being read to. They can read anything— books, magazines comics, recipes etc. Anything with words!

You will have already have received a sponsor form, which should be returned to school with the sponsor money by **Monday 16 March** please. HAPPY READING!



Latest Public Health England advice on coronavirus

ACTION WE HAVE TAKEN IN SCHOOL

Children have been reminded about the importance of good hygiene.

The government's advice poster for schools will be displayed around school. You can view the poster below.

ACTION YOU CAN TAKE

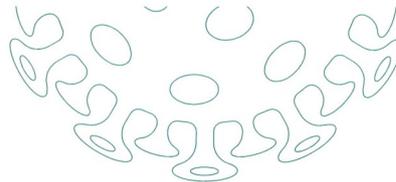
Ensure your child has a supply of tissues and hand sanitizer (that contains at least 60% alcohol) for school.

Remind them when sneezing or coughing to 'Catch it, bin it, kill it' as advised in the government posters.

Remind them to wash their hands regularly at key points, as advised in the government poster.



Public Health
England



Advice on the coronavirus for places of education

How serious is the coronavirus?

- it can cause flu-like symptoms, including fever, cough & difficulty breathing
- the infection is not serious for most people, including children
- there is currently no vaccine
- most people get better with enough rest, water to drink and medicine for pain

How likely are you to catch the virus?

- you can only catch it if you have been close to a person who has the virus
- the chance of being in contact with the virus is currently low in the UK
- if you have travelled to areas where many people are infected, your chance of catching the virus is higher, i.e. China and any affected areas

How can you stop coronaviruses spreading?

If you need to cough or sneeze



Catch it
with a tissue



Bin it



Kill it
by washing
your hands with
soap & water or
hand sanitiser



**After breaks
& sport
activities**



**Before
cooking
& eating**



**SCHOOL
ETC.**
On arrival at
any childcare
or educational
setting



**After using
the toilet**



**Before
leaving
home**



Try not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands



Do not share items that come into contact with your mouth such as cups & bottles



If unwell do not share items such as bedding, dishes, pencils & towels



Stop germs spreading with our e-Bug resources on hand and respiratory hygiene lesson plans for KS1, 2 and 3: campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools

What should you do if you feel unwell?

Keep away from others and stay at home to stop the infection spreading. Avoid public transport if you think you have symptoms of coronavirus. If you become unwell at a place of education, tell a member of staff and let them know if you have travelled to any other countries in the last 14 days.

If your staff member or parent thinks you have symptoms of coronavirus, they should call **NHS 111** for advice. Follow the UK Government advice for childcare or educational settings [gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19). Parents can visit [NHS.UK](https://www.nhs.uk) to find out more information. Teachers and support staff should follow the UK Government advice.

Staff, students and pupils who have returned from Iran, specific lockdown areas in northern Italy, special care zones in South Korea or Hubei province China (returned in the past 14 days) should self isolate, and NOT attend education or work for 14 days.

See [NHS.UK](https://www.nhs.uk) for advice on coronavirus.

If there is an emergency, call 999 immediately





British Science Week 6th -15th March

British Science Week, run by the British Science Association, is a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths, and it features entertaining and engaging events and activities across the UK for people of all ages.

British Science Week provides a platform to stimulate and support teachers, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) professionals, science communicators and the general public to produce and participate in STEM events and activities.

Anyone can organise an event or activity, and the British Science Association helps organisers plan by providing free activity and support resources to any type of organiser, from schools to community groups, from parents to large organisations. The resulting programme of events is therefore a really varied mix, with something to interest everyone!

Find out more: <https://www.britishsienceweek.org/>

This year the theme for our Science Week is 'Our Diverse World'. Children across school will take part in a range of activities and investigations to develop their scientific knowledge, understanding and enquiry skills, and Science Week will finish with a KS1 assembly for children to share what they have learned with their peers. A special thanks to Mrs Hibberd, our Science Lead, for arranging this.

Events happening in the local area include....

Science Week at Sheffield Hallam

From the 9th to 21st March 2020, Sheffield Hallam University is offering a programme of inspiring and free events to schools, colleges and the public as part of British Science Week to celebrate science and engineering and more, through a diverse programme that will fascinate, entertain and engage children, young people and adults.

Events include talks, masterclasses, events and community activity, led by experts. Science Week at Sheffield Hallam isn't just for Schools and Colleges - a number of events during Science Week 2020 will be open to the public. Please follow the link to the website to have a look at the programme and find out more – www.shu.ac.uk/scienceweek

Public Events incl. Friday 6th March - SHU Gazing Live!

Join Sheffield Hallam University and the Sheffield Astronomical Society for an evening of science and stargazing.

Friday 13th March - Discovery Night at The University of Sheffield, Firth Court and the Alfred Denny Building, Western Bank, Sheffield S10 2TN

Visit the University of Sheffield's laboratories and lecture theatre for an evening of hands-on science for the whole family. There will be talks, exciting Science demonstrations and interactive activities for visitors of all ages.

The event is free and no booking is required. Find out more on the website.

Saturday 14th March - Geology walks with Peter Kennett

Where on Earth did that come from?

10.30 – 12.00, Sheffield Peace Gardens

Geological walkabout in Sheffield City Centre. The natural stone in the buildings of the city centre can tell a fascinating story. Sheffield was once on the Equator, and much of England was once a hot desert. The route runs from the Peace Gardens to the Cathedral forecourt.



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Rock around Ecclesall Churchyard

14:30 - 15:30, Ringinglow Road Sheffield

No, not another pop festival among the tombs, but a peaceful walk around the other sorts of rock! Discover how the great and the good of Sheffield are commemorated and how well their memorials have stood up to the weather since.

Free tickets for the walks can be booked at Eventbrite

Saturday 14th March - Think Moor Eco

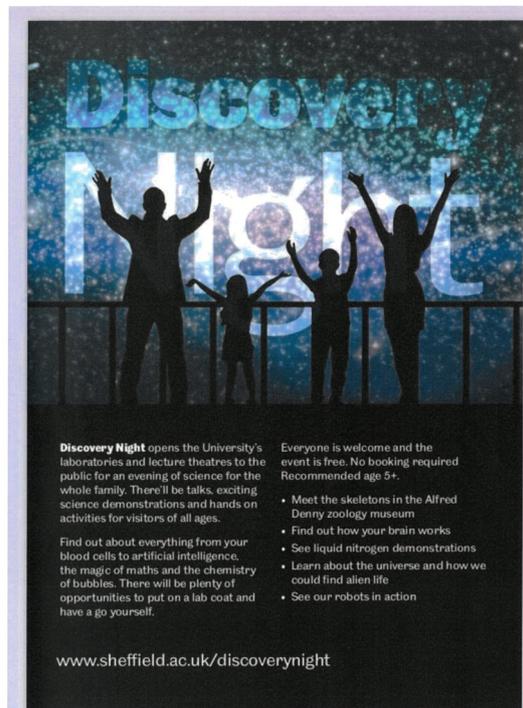
10:00 - 14:00, Sheffield Moor Market

Come and join locally based scientists in Science Week. Learn about environmental chemistry with hands on demonstrations; understand more about the climate change effects on our oceans, and discover how chemistry can help to solve the problems our planet faces.

Saturday 21st March - Explore! Interactive family event in Science, Engineering and More

11:00 - 16:00, City Campus, Sheffield Hallam University

This fantastic exhibition showcases research in biology, chemistry, forensic science, engineering and health. There will be plenty to capture the imagination of all ages from hands-on activities to demonstrations, crafts and competitions. Please see the website for details as some events need to be booked in advance.





NURSERY NEWS

Babies visiting nursery

To kick start our new topic "What is growing?" we have arranged for some special little visitors to come and see us in Nursery Tuesday pm and Wednesday am this week. Please see the letter that has been given out to parents. If you haven't yet brought in a baby photo in of your child, please do so as soon as possible!

Donations please!

We would be very grateful for all donations of the following toys for this term:

Toy tools
Baby High Chairs
Hard bodied dolls
Remote control toys
Microphones
Baby clothes and baby toys
Wool/material for creative work
Old (suitable) birthday cards.

Bedtime Story Day

Nursery will be organising a Bedtime Story Day this Thursday, so PJs at the ready nursery children and staff!

Voluntary contribution pot

A pot for collecting £1.50 voluntary termly contributions is available this week in nursery. These funds help us to buy special snacks to support our learning, make playdough for the children and also buy baking ingredients for them etc. Thank you for your support :-)



Nut Free School

Can we please ask you to ensure that your child's lunchtime/snack does not contain nuts. This helps us to ensure that risks to children with severe allergies are minimised. If you are affected by this and would like further information, this can be obtained from the Anaphylaxis Campaign which supports people with severe allergies (Helpline 01252 542 029).



Naughty, nice or potentially life threatening?

For some people, a simple snack can be a matter of life and death. Just one bite can trigger a severe allergic reaction – it can even kill. The Anaphylaxis Campaign was set up to offer information and support. If you're one of those affected, learn how to protect yourself. Call us.

 **Anaphylaxis**
Campaign
Supporting people with severe allergies

Helpline:
Tel: 01252 542029 email: info@anaphylaxis.org.uk
www.anaphylaxis.org.uk

The copyright of this poster belongs to the Anaphylaxis Campaign. If you would like to reproduce any part of this poster please contact us at press@anaphylaxis.org.uk



Friends of HNIS

Sponsored Reading Challenge

The Friends Group is holding a Sponsored Read—more details can be found in the main body of this newsletter.

Next Friends Group Meeting:

Thursday 5 March

5-6pm

(in the staffroom)

Friends Group: What is it?

Every parent\carer of a child attending our Nursery and School are automatically members of the Friends Group. It is a friendly and accessible meeting place for parents\carers, staff and others who are interested in our children, as well as a fund-raising vehicle. Our meetings are very informal, and everyone is welcome.

The Group (formerly known as **HIP Group**) plans **events** such as the Beach Party Summer Fayre, the Winter Fayre and the Autumn & Spring Discos. It also organises the Christmas Card scheme, Easter Egg hunts, visits from Santa and lots of other great activities.



Since its creation, the group has raised in excess of **£50,000**, which has been used to provide, amongst other things, new playground markings, classroom equipment and new technologies, as well as book bags, Christmas gifts and entertainers. It also paid for the trim trail and story telling area.

All our events are listed on our **PTA Social** page. PTA Social is a simple way for the whole school community to plan school events together online, and get to know each other. For all the latest updates, and to volunteer to help out, just **click the link** below. (if you aren't a member yet, you will be emailed an invitation to join once you've clicked on the link).

<https://app.ptasocial.com/register/friends-hnis>

If you need more **help**, please contact any member of the Friends of HNIS committee:

Chair: Jenny Thorne

(mother of children in Nursery F1 and F2)

Treasurer: Joanne Clare

(can be contacted through PTA Social)

Secretary & School Contact: Lindsay Tatham (works in the School Office)



World Book Day – Thursday 5th March – Share a Million Stories

The theme for World Book Day this year is ‘Share a million stories’, so as a school we will be trying to share as many stories in one day as we can! To help us with this you are invited to our:

Share a story breakfast!

Please join us in your child’s classroom from 8:30am to share a story and have some breakfast (gates will be opened from 8:25am). Each classroom will have lots of books to choose from, but it would be great if children could bring in a book from home to share during this time (please make sure books are clearly named).

Don’t forget to start sending in your ‘Extreme Reading’ photographs for a chance to win a great prize! Photos can be sent in from now until World Book Day. Photos should be emailed into school at: enquiries@halfway-jun.sheffield.sch.uk or tag us in them on Twitter @HalfwayJunior.

We are looking forward to seeing which characters and props children will be wearing on the day! Don’t forget, if your child does not want to come to school dressed up, then they are to wear school uniform.

Choir

On Friday our Choir are visiting Rose Cottage Care Home where they will be performing for the residents, volunteers and carers. The children will spend some time singing for their audience and talking to the residents. The choir has also been invited to sing at the Westfield Family of Schools Celebration Evening on Monday 23rd March (more details about this event, will follow later this week). We are really looking forward to the choir showcasing their talents in our wider community and want to thank the choir for their dedication and hard work.

Sports Relief – Friday 13th March

In order to raise money for Sports Relief, we are going to be working as a team to see if we can walk all the way up the UK’s highest mountain – Mount Snowdon! As a school we will need to walk 49, 570 steps to reach the summit! We are asking children to come to school wearing a sports kit and bring in £1 donation. Don’t forget we will also be selling the official ‘Sports Relief’ wristbands during that week.

Due to the Y3 trip, we are asking Y3 children to come to school in sports kit, with their £1 donation, on Thursday 12th March, when they will begin our challenge of walking up Mount Snowdon.

British Science Week – w/b 9th March

The theme for British Science Week this year is ‘Our Diverse Planet’. As a school our focus will be on the diverse job roles within the STEM sector. We are looking to develop children’s awareness of these roles and nurture their aspirations for careers within the STEM sector. Alongside this we will look to celebrate the achievements of women within the sector and the pivotal roles they have played in scientific discoveries and advancements. Over the week, the children will be involved in a range of activities, including career talks from guest speakers working or studying with the STEM sector, super science sessions and a whole school poster competition which will be launched next week.

Parent Consultation Bookings – Reminder

Parent Consultation Evenings will take place on Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th March between 3.30pm-5.30pm and 3.30pm-6.30pm, respectively. Please make sure you have booked a slot via ParentMail. If you do not have access to the internet to book an appointment, please contact the school office.

S20 Foodbank Collection – Friday 13th March – Reminder

Once again we are supporting our local community by collecting donations of dried or packet food to donate to the S20 Foodbank Service, (no fresh produce please). Donations can be handed in at any time to your child’s class teacher or to the school office. All of your generous donations will then be collected by the S20 Foodbank service. Thank you for your support.