



Weekly Family Newsletter

Monday 2nd October 2023

www.halfwaynurseryinfantschool.org

Caring, Sharing, Learning for Life.



Attendance figures for week ending 29th September.

Class	Attendance (%)
Miss Clewes	93.0
Mrs Hibberd	86.7
Mrs Thorpe	96.3
Miss White/Mrs Briggs	87.6
Miss Hughes/Mrs Bettinson	95.0
Mrs Timmons	98.9

Whole school attendance = 92.4%

If your child is unable to attend school for any reason, please ring as early as possible on 0114 248 2360. Choose Option 2.

Office Opening Hours

The **main school office** is open each day from 8am - 4pm, and the phone will be answered within these hours. Outside of these hours you will have the opportunity to leave an answer phone message, which will be replied to, if necessary, when the office is next open.

If you need to contact **nursery** for any reason, then please call the school office number (including if your child will be absent). If you call the nursery number, this will automatically divert to the school office.

Design Your Own Christmas Card

Don't forget that we are running the Design Your Own Christmas Card scheme again this year, to raise funds for Easter activities. You have already received a form with instructions on how to submit your child's design. Extra forms are available from the School Office. All completed forms should be returned by **Friday 13 October**. We can't wait to see what your children produce!

PE days - reminder

Children's days for Big PE this year are as follows:

F2 = Tuesday

Year 1 = Friday

Year 2 = Thursday

On these days please send your child to school dressed in their PE kit. Any jewellery should be removed and long hair tied up.

Learners of the week

Congratulations to last week's Learners of the Week!

	
Bluebell and Connor	Ella and Indy
	
Xavier and Romiie	Eden and Beau
	
Henry and Olive	Ayven and Jodie

A message from Sheffield City Council

On Tuesday 3rd October, the Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, will be visiting Sheffield to speak to our young people about her latest project, The Big Ambition.

The Big Ambition is a survey for children aged 6-18, and parents of young people aged 0-18, across the country. Dame Rachel hopes to use the survey to hear what children want for the future, their hopes, dreams, and aspirations.

Now, as we approach the General Election, this is the moment to take children and young people's voices to policy makers, to ensure that they are represented in the decisions which will shape their futures.

The Commissioner wants to ensure that the children and young people of Sheffield have their say through The Big Ambition. She is particularly keen to reach as many different groups of children and different types of as possible.

Please ask your child (or you can complete it on their behalf) to complete the survey to share their hopes, dreams and aspirations.

[https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/the_big_ambition/?](https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/the_big_ambition/?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=)

[utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=](https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/the_big_ambition/?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=)

Welcome Meetings

This week is the last of our welcome meetings for our children in Reception (F2). It takes place on Thursday 5th October at 4:15pm. This meeting will be run by class teachers in the school hall. This meeting is a great way to find out what your child will be learning this year, and how you can support them. Please complete the form sent to you to indicate if you are planning to attend your child's meeting.

Individual photograph day

The photographer will be visiting school **tomorrow**, Tuesday 3 October, to take children's individual school photographs - so get those gleaming smiles and cracking hairstyles ready! All children, in nursery through to year 2, will have their picture taken. If you would like siblings, either within school or from a different school, to have their photographs taken together then please come to the school hall, via the main entrance, from 8 am tomorrow morning. If you have a child/children at the Junior School, you can include them in the sibling photo, but please let the Junior school know if you plan to do this, as your child/children may be a little late. Please be prepared to queue to have your pictures taken.

Your child will come home with instructions for how to order copies of the photo.

Note—All children, including any doing Big PE, should wear their uniform on the day.

Parent's Evening

Our first set of parent's evenings will be taking place on **Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th October**. These meetings are a great way to find out how your child/ren have settled into school this year, and ways in which you can support them at home. If you have not already done so, please sign up for a slot via the link that was emailed to you last week.

If you are unable to come on these days, then please speak with your child's class teacher to arrange an alternative time.

ParentPay

Last week we shared that we have moved to ParentPay as a way to book, manage and pay for all school activities. All children were sent home with a unique username and password for setting up the ParentPay account. Those with other children who attend a school that already use ParentPay can use these login details to add their child to an already existing account. If you have not yet downloaded and logged into ParentPay, we encourage you to do this as soon as you can.



As a reminder:

- From this week all bookings and payments for wrap-around care (breakfast club and Superkids) need to be made via ParentPay;
- Children need to be booked into breakfast club via ParentPay;
- School will have already transferred all ongoing, regular bookings. Please check that these are accurate and amend as necessary;
- No charges will be made if you do not cancel your booking within the 48 hours prior to the session. However, this will start after half term.
- If you are unable to book a space in either of the wrap-around care clubs, you can still email Superkids;
- Payments for sessions attended need to be made within 10 days of the end of the month;
- We shared a follow up email with details for those that use childcare vouchers or the government childcare tax-free scheme.

Should you have any issues with booking, paying or managing your account, or questions regarding the changes, please contact the school office who will be able to help.

!!!! STOP PRESS !!!!

We will be making a few minor changes to club names on ParentPay over the next couple of days, by adding the month to the name. We hope this will make it easier for users to find, book and pay for club sessions. You may find that your account is credited/debited with after-school and/or breakfast club sessions, but the sessions your child is booked in for, and the sessions you are charged for, will not change - just the names.

Thank you for your patience during these minor changes.

HIP Group meeting

Halfway Infants Parent (HIP) Group will be meeting for the first time this year to plan exciting events and fund-raising opportunities for the year. The meeting will take place in school on **Thursday 5th at 9am**. If you are planning to attend please let school know. Alternatively, if you are unable to attend but interested in volunteering for events and joining the group, please let the school office know.

Fire Engine Visit

We have a very exciting visit from the Fire Service on Friday morning, which will be bringing a fire engine to school. All classes will have the chance to visit the fire engine and learn about how this emergency service helps to keep us safe.

The fire engine is a working vehicle and so, should it be called out in an emergency, the visit will be postponed and rescheduled.

Starting school in September 2024

Even though we only recently welcomed our new school starters, we are already thinking about those families who will be applying for a school place for September 2024. If you have a child, and are interested in them starting with us, we have a number of open evenings planned for you to come and look around the school. The dates for these are:

October 3rd at 4pm

November 2nd at 4pm

November 16th at 4pm

Please call the school office to book onto one of the open evenings.

Design a poppy competition - reminder

See below for information about a poppy competition being run by First Bus. Entries for the competition need to be handed into the school office by Wednesday 11th October. School will select 5 entries to be sent off to First Bus, with the chance of their design being used on a bus! Please make sure all entries have your child's name, year group and school on the back. If you would like to use a template for your design then paper copies can be collected from the school office.



First Bus

Design a poppy for a bus

In support of the Royal British Legion

Get your pencils, crayons and felt-tips at the ready, as the Royal British Legion and First Bus are inviting your students to draw their very own poppy to be featured inside a First Bus in Sheffield to mark Remembrance Day.

We want to see what Remembrance Day means to your students, by drawing their own poppy that shows their creativity and feelings. Please use A4 sized paper for drawings, adding the child's name, year group and school.

South East Local Area Committee Public Meeting

Thursday 5th October

6.30-8.30pm

Shortbrook Primary School, Westfield Northway, S20 8FB

Local Area Committees have been running now since May 2021 and during this time we have developed a Local Community Plan.

We have recently consulted with residents of the South East in order to revisit this plan and we will present the outcome from this consultation at the meeting.

Crime & Community Safety

You have told us that Crime and Community Safety is a key theme for the area. At our meeting we will be having colleagues from South Yorkshire Police, SCC Community Safety Team, The Anti-Social Behaviour Team and Tenancy Enforcement Sustainment Team.

These services will be delivering short presentations and there will be an opportunity for you to talk with these teams to ask questions and put forward any suggestions you may have for improving your local area.

There will also be other council services present on the evening and an opportunity for you to chat with them and well as speak to your local Councillors.

This event is free and you do not need to pre-book, however if you wish to do so you can use this QR code:

