



# Weekly Family Newsletter

Monday 14th June 2021

[www.halfwaynurseryinfantschool.org](http://www.halfwaynurseryinfantschool.org)

**Caring, Sharing, Learning for Life.**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>What's Happening this Week?</b>	F2 Big PE day		Y2 Big PE day  'Beat the Street' campaign starts! <a href="http://beatthestreet.me/sheffield">beatthestreet.me/sheffield</a>	Y1 Big PE day	
<b>And Next Week ?</b>	F2 Big PE day		Y2 Big PE day	Y1 Big PE day	



**Attendance for the week ending 11th June 2021**

Class	Attendance (%)
Enormous Crocodiles	97.2
Crafty Chameleons	99.2
Rainbow Fish	95.2
Hungry Caterpillars	93.5
Gruffalos	96.7
Elmers	92.2

Overall attendance for the week was 95.7%

## Some Key Dates

Wednesday 16th June	Y2 Big PE Day (note the change of day)
Thursday 17th June	Y1 Big PE Day (note the change of day)
Tuesday 20th July	Last day of term (21st is an INSET day)  School picnic day
Friday 9th July	Sports Day (children only event this year—no spectators due to Covid restrictions, but photos to be shared on Tapestry)

## Keeping Children Safe in the Sun



- Please apply high factor sun cream/sunblock before school (children can also bring named bottles into school for their personal use throughout the day)
- Bring a wide brimmed hat for your child to wear
- Provide a bottle with fresh water for your child to drink each day
- Dress your child in clothes that cover and protect the skin

## **Staffing updates**

### **Year 1 -**

Mrs Hipkin has informed us that she will be returning to school from her Maternity Leave in a few weeks time, which is great news. Mum and baby are both well, and we cannot wait to see Mrs Hipkin in school again! Mrs Hipkin will be teaching in school each Thursday and Friday from the week commencing 5th July.

During her leave, some of the temporary teaching/maternity cover has been provided by the lovely Mrs Kay (in our Very Hungry Caterpillar Y1 class). We are very sad to say that Mrs Kay will, therefore, be leaving in a few weeks time; her last day with us will be on Tuesday 6th July (although we hope to see her back in school soon as she may be able to cover occasional supply days for us). Mrs Kay has been a hard working and committed member of the team, and we will miss her very much.

Whilst we appreciate this is a change for some of our Y1 children, Mrs Hipkin used to teach the children last year before she had her baby, and, therefore, she already knows the children and cannot wait to see how much they have grown since her time with them in F2! To help familiarise Mrs Hipkin with the children again, and support the class before she returns, she will be visiting school for the day on Friday 25th June to work in class alongside Mrs Hibberd.

To ensure further consistency for the Very Hungry Caterpillar class, Mrs Hibberd will continue teaching the class Monday to Wednesday (with Mrs Hipkin teaching the class on Thursdays and Fridays until the summer holiday). Mrs Wylie will also continue supporting the class, so we are confident that the children will be happy and have a great end of term as they will be taught by a skilled and very familiar team.

We will be talking to our Y1 children later this week to prepare them for the upcoming change, but wanted to inform parents/carers of the amendment to teaching arrangements before we speak with the children.

I am sure you will join me as I send a huge THANK YOU to Mrs Kay for all she has done to support our children and families. She is such a caring, kind and dedicated member of staff, and we certainly will miss her in school every week. Thank you for all you have done, and continue to do, Mrs Kay.

### **Whole school -**

Our plans for teaching arrangements for September are currently being finalised and we will be able to share information regarding who your child's class teacher will be in September in the next week or so. Please see below for information about how your child will be supported as they prepare to move to their new year group. (NB—If your child is moving onto another school, his/her new school will be in contact with you directly to inform you of their plans, and we will work with all settings/providers to ensure that information is passed over to support a successful transition between schools).

## **Transition Plan 2021!**

Transition will be a little different again this year in all schools due to the continued restrictions to keep everyone safe. We know how important effective transition is to support the children to both bring one school year to a close and also help them to prepare for the next. Therefore, we have planned safe ways to support children and parents/carers to make sure you all have the information you need before September comes!

You will find a summary of our transition events and activities on the next page.

## **Helping the children as they prepare to move on...**

- New class teachers will make videos for the children, including a virtual classroom tour, which will be sent to classes and also posted on our school website week beginning 28th July
- Teachers will write a letter/'pen portrait' to give to their new children (the children will also be set a little task for homework nearer the time to say hello to new year group staff too!)
- New staff will spend time with new classes at outdoor play times so the children are familiar with them in a Covid safe way - week commencing 5th July
- Parents/carers can pop in to 'meet the teacher' outside their new classroom on the yard at their usual collection time on Wednesday 7th July (Y1 and Y2 teachers will be on the yard from 2:30pm to say hello informally as you collect the children)
- Staff will more formally meet their new children in a special outdoor circle time session with the new class - week beginning 12th July
- Current year group teachers will meet with new year group teachers to share important information about how wonderful your children are and how they can best support them in their new classes in September (this also happens if your child is moving onto a different setting).
- Transition packs will be sent out for new starters which detail transition for children who will be new to our school in September, including 'Welcome to our school/nursery' meetings on Zoom (new to F2 meeting on 29th June/Nursery on 16th June). Links and details of transition opportunities will be sent out to relevant parents/carers directly.
- Our transition plan puts children's needs and safety first, and also follows Public Health advice on managing risks of Covid-19 at end of term events.

## **INSET/school closure days for the new academic year**

**1st Sept 2021**

**22nd Oct 2021**

**4th Jan 2022**

**21st Feb 2022**

**27th May 2022**

Please note - these have been set with, and are shared by, Halfway Junior School to help parents/carers with children at both schools to arrange childcare etc. on school closure days. There may also be an additional closure day that needs to be set by schools next year (due to the Bank Holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee falling in a school holiday) - once we have clarification from the Local Authority about this we will let you know if/when it needs to be scheduled.

## End of term celebrations

- **Nursery**

The Nursery team is planning a 'Graduation' for the children which they will share with parents/carers on Tapestry week beginning 12th July.

- **School (F2, Y1, Y2)**

'Picnic and party!' day to celebrate a super school year with current year group staff - Tuesday 20th July.

- **Sports Day**

Friday 9th July (please note, following Public Health advice for schools, our Sports Day will not be able to have a crowd/spectators this year, but the children will have a great time participating, and we will take lots of photographs and videos for you to watch together on Tapestry at home too so you do not miss out on all the fun!).

- **F2/Y1 Class assemblies on Zoom** to celebrate the year, including Y2 Leavers' Zoom Assemblies.

These will be held on the following days:

<b>F2H</b>	<b>F2T</b>	<b>Y1D</b>	<b>Y1H</b>	<b>Y2J</b>	<b>Y2B</b>
<b>4:30pm</b> <b>12.7.21</b>	<b>4pm</b> <b>12.7.21</b>	<b>4:30pm</b> <b>13.7.21</b>	<b>4pm</b> <b>13.7.21</b>	<b>4pm</b> <b>15.7.21</b>	<b>4pm</b> <b>14.7.21</b>

Miss Hughes's class   Mrs Timmons's class   Miss Dale's class   Mrs Hibberd's class   Mrs Jordan's class   Mrs Bettinson's/Briggs's class

- **Children's Reports**

These will be shared with parents in the week beginning 12th July (with an optional 'drop in' opportunity for parents/carers to discuss their child's report with their class teacher on 15th July).

# VEGPOWER



Above is a picture of the children's display from our dining room hall for last week's 'Eat Them To Defeat Them' challenge. Thank you to the Taylor Shaw team for all their efforts to encourage the children to try those veggies!

This week's featured vegetable is the **SWEETCORN!!**

## Beat the Street Campaign

**Beat the Street** starts on Wednesday! Children in main school will bring home today:

- a fob, to use at the Beat Boxes
- a map of the locations of the Beat Boxes
- an envelope, containing a letter to you from the Beat the Street team, and a card for you to join in with the challenge

Please register the fob and the card at [beatthestreet.me/sheffield](https://beatthestreet.me/sheffield). (You have to scroll down a bit to find us: they've called us 'Halfway Infant Nursery!'). The more points our school collects, the more likely we are to travel up the leaderboard, and possibly win a prize!

Our School Council children have one final task this term—they will all have a special role as 'Beat the Street' monitors. This will include designing a poster to remind children to take part, checking if fellow pupils have signed up for the challenge, and sharing ideas on how to progress best from one Beat Box to another using the maps in class.

The game runs from 16 June to 28 July – visit [beatthestreet.me/sheffield](https://beatthestreet.me/sheffield) to find out more.

(We're still hoping that the scheme coordinator is able to provide us with fobs for our Nursery children too: we'll let you know if and when we hear).



## **Nursery News**

### **Nursery scooter or bike wash this week.**

It's enterprise week in nursery this week. We would like to buy some new construction and water toys so, as part of our enterprise topic, we are going to have a nursery scooter/bike wash. Bring your scooter or bike to nursery for a clean - 50p per scooter/bike.

Yellow Group – Tuesday (15<sup>th</sup>)

Green Group – Wednesday (16<sup>th</sup>)

Blue Group – Thursday (17<sup>th</sup>)

Children who don't attend on these days can bring in their scooter this Friday (18<sup>th</sup>).

### **F2 Class lists**

Over the next few days, the Nursery team will be creating two class lists for their children who are due to move into one F2 provision in September. The Nursery team considers many things when they organise the children into 2 class lists ready for their move into school, including friendships, behaviour, needs, age etc. as they create 2 classes.

Whilst most children make friends quickly, staff do aim to put children in class with a special friend so they feel happy and settled in order to be successful in their learning and development too. If your child will be moving to F2 in our school in September and you would like them to consider anything as they finalise their 2 class lists this week, please inform nursery staff by the end of the week so this can be considered (where appropriate).

**Thank you for your ongoing support.**

**Kindest regards,**

**Paula Bestall**