



# Weekly Family Newsletter

Monday 16th October 2023

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

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



Attendance figures for week ending 13th October.

Class	Attendance (%)
Miss Clewes	94.3
Mrs Hibberd	95.3
Mrs Thorpe	94.6
Miss White/Mrs Briggs	93.3
Miss Hughes/Mrs Bettinson	99.0
Mrs Timmons	97.5

Whole school attendance = 95.5%

## 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.

## Girls' Pants and Socks

We are very short of spare pants and socks for girls, so if you have any you could donate we would be very grateful.

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

## 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!

	
<b>Scarlett and Lucas</b>	<b>Cooper and Sofia</b>
	
<b>Lacey and Rose</b>	<b>Harper and Oliver</b>
	
<b>Milly and Rory</b>	<b>Lily and Reggie</b>

## ParentPay

Lots of you have now activated your ParentPay accounts, and have been booking onto our wrap-around care clubs. As with all new things, it will take a bit of getting used to, so if you have any problems or questions, call in at the School Office, or contact us at [superkids@halfway-inf.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:superkids@halfway-inf.sheffield.sch.uk) or on 0114 2482360 and we'll try to help.

Now we have had the system for a few days, and some of you have had the chance to try it out, we have decided to change slightly the terms and conditions for Breakfast Club. It will be possible for you to book your child into Breakfast Club (or cancel your booking if necessary) up until 11.59pm the night before the session. We hope that this will be helpful to our families. The terms and conditions for Superkids after-school club will remain as before, i.e. no bookings can be made or cancelled after 11.59pm two nights before the session. You will be charged for all sessions booked, whether or not you use them. This is because Superkids after-school is regularly fully booked but not all the bookings are used, and some of our families really need spaces and can't get in.

## Y1 Local Walk, Wednesday 18th October

The Y1s, as part of their Geography learning about the local area, will be going on a walk around the local area on Wednesday morning. We need your permission for your child to take part in this activity. Please give your consent via ParentPay. (There is no charge for the walk.) Children need to wear school uniform as normal, but please ensure they come to school in suitable shoes and with a suitable coat.

## End of half term

We can not believe that this week is our final week of term before the half term break. Don't forget that our last day of term is Friday 20th October. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on **Monday 30th October**.

## Parent's Evening

Thank you to everyone who attended our parent's evenings this week. We hope that you found the evening informative.

## Autumn Disco

We are really excited about our Autumn Discos! You will need to buy a ticket for your child via ParentPay for this. If you have yet to set up your account you will need to do this asap. Please speak with the office if you have any queries.

**Games!**

# Autumn Discos

**Dancing!**

<u>Nursery</u>	<u>E2</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 1</u>
<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> Oct</b> 3.30pm - 4.15pm	<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> Oct</b> 3.15pm - 4.15pm	<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> Oct</b> 4.30pm – 5.30pm	<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov</b> 3.15pm – 4.15pm
Children are invited to bring their disco outfit to nursery in a named bag. They will get changed before the disco.	Children are invited to bring their disco outfit to school in a named bag. They will get changed before the disco.	Children collected from school as usual at 2.55pm and return for the disco for 4.30pm.	Children are invited to bring their disco outfit to school in a named bag. They will get changed before the disco.
£3 per ticket (45 minute session)	£3.50 per ticket (1 hour session)	£3.50 per ticket (1 hour session)	£3.50 per ticket (1 hour session)

Tickets available through ParentPay. Ticket prices include entry, a drink and a sweet treat. Children are invited to wear/bring their party outfits or fancy dress. No onesie's though please! Please inform us of any allergies or dietary requirements when booking your tickets.

**Fun!**

## Book Fair

Following the success of last year, we shall be hosting a Scholastic book fair after half term on **6th and 7th November**. This is a great chance to top up your bookshelf, or buy some Christmas gifts. It is also a great way to help raise funds for school, as we get a percentage of the money made. Last year we raised over £400, which meant that every year group was able to choose £100 worth of books to go into their class reading areas!

More information about this will be shared after half term!

## School Council Trip

Our newly elected school councillors went to Westfield on Friday to join the other school councillors from our Family of Schools to take part in games, activities and litter picking. Although it was a bit of a wet and soggy day they had an amazing time and represented our school brilliantly; just what school councillors should do!



## Starting school in September 2024

If you have a child, and are interested in them starting with us in September 2024, we still have two open evenings planned for you to come and look around the school. The dates for these are:

**November 2nd at 4pm**

**November 16th at 4pm**

Please call the school office on 248 2360 to book onto one of the open evenings.

### Year 2 children

Children in year 2 will have received information about applying for their year 3 space for September 2024.

**Halfway Junior School will be holding an open evening on 14th November.** This event is designed to give you information about this school, and a chance to look around. Children are able to attend with you.



## Half term museum activities

Barnsley Museums are running a number of exciting family activities across our five venues during October half term, including lots of spooky Halloween fun! The majority of these are free of charge and our sites can act as warm spaces during the colder months. More information below....

## FREE FOOD SUPPLEMENT VOUCHERS FOR OCTOBER HALF-TERM HOLIDAYS

Below are Sheffield City Council's plans to provide food supplement vouchers for 33,000 children and young people across the city for the October half-term holidays.

The Government Household Support Grant has been extended to assist with rising food and energy costs. Sheffield City Council recognises that many families continue to face financial difficulties because of the pandemic, changes to Universal Credit, and rising costs for food and energy.

A £15 food supplement voucher will be sent to the following groups to help over the half-term holidays:

- Families who claim income-based Free School Meals (FSM);
- Families who get income-assessed Early Years Support (2–4-Year-Olds);
- Young people leaving their care setting (Care Leavers).

### The Plan

The Council has chosen to continue to use Edenred as the supplier of the vouchers as schools and parent/carers are familiar with the two-step process involved in downloading the vouchers.

- Voucher letters should arrive with parents by w/c Monday 16 October. The letter will include the website link for Edenred and clear instructions on how to download the voucher. Parents are asked to contact the school/establishment in the first instance if they need help with downloading or printing their vouchers.
- Any child/young person that becomes eligible for a food voucher between 29 September and 22 October 2023 will be sent a voucher letter w/c 30 October.

### The Process

- As before, parents/carers need to go to the following website to redeem their vouchers - [www.selectyourcompliment.co.uk/grocery](http://www.selectyourcompliment.co.uk/grocery)
- Enter their unique 16-digit e-Code and select their chosen supermarket. Edenred give them a choice of 11 supermarkets: Aldi, Asda, B&M, Company Shop, Farmfoods, Iceland McColl's, M&S, Tesco, Sainsbury's and Waitrose.
- Parents/carers can download their vouchers for more than one supermarket. For example, £10 for Aldi and £5 for Asda.
- The downloaded E-Gift Card/Voucher will arrive by email within 24 hours. If they cannot find this, they should check their Junk/Spam folder.

Please note that codes need to be activated within 3 months of the date of issue (16 October) or they will be cancelled automatically. Once vouchers have been redeemed on the Edenred website they will be valid for 12 months.

### Where can you get further help?

The FSM voucher helpline will be available on 0114 2734567, option 4, option 3, and can offer help to parents experiencing difficulties with their e-Codes or with general FSM enquiries.

Parents/carers can also contact Edenred directly with an enquiry about an eCode or voucher at [freeschoolmealsparentscarers@edenred.com](mailto:freeschoolmealsparentscarers@edenred.com) or telephone 0333 400 5932.

If a parent is facing financial hardship, there is free advice and support available at [www.citizensadvice.org.uk/sheffield](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/sheffield) or they can call on 0808 278 7820.

Additional support can also be found via Sheffield City Council's Community Support Helpline on 0114 273 4567 or at [www.sheffield.gov.uk/costofliving](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/costofliving)



# Have a **fang-tastic** time at **Barnsley boo-seums**

This October half term @ **BARNLSLEY MUSEUMS**

## **Slimy Potions with Amzelab!**

**Tuesday 31 October**

Roll up your sleeves and get gooey with spooky science this Halloween. **10-11am, 11.30am-12.30pm and 1.30-2.30pm. £3 per child. See Art Tickets to book your place.**



## **Else-scare Trail**

**Saturday 28 October –  
Sunday 5 November**

Elsecar has long been a place to experience the weird and wonderful. However, this year there have been rumours of a new beast lurking in the shadows? can you help hunt it down? **Free, drop-in | 10-3pm. Starts at the Visitor Centre.**

## **Hell-secar Bat Trail**

**Saturday 28 October –  
Sunday 5 November**

Find all our furry, fanged friends and collect a sticker.

**Free, drop-in | 11am-4pm. Starts at the Visitor Centre, suitable for all ages.**



## **Forbidden Forest Trail** **Saturday 28 October – Sunday 5 November**

Are you brave enough to step into the Forbidden Forest? Frighteningly good fun in our parklands.

**Free, drop-in | 11am-4pm  
Suitable for all ages**



Share your  
photos, tag us  
and use the  
hashtag

**#Booseum**





**Mini Artists Trail**  
**Monday 30 October –**  
**Saturday 4 November**



Can you join our drawing challenge? Calling all mini-artists to find all the different art activities and test your skills. **Free, drop-in during gallery opening hours.**



**SENsational**  
**Monday 30 October**

Book on this multisensory experience for families with PMLD, autism and who are neurodiverse. Experience Barnsley's signature museum in a way you never have before. The sessions take place in the Learning Lab inside the museum (which is located in the town hall). The space is set up with a range of sensory items, along with soft floor mats and soft lighting. **Places are limited so booking is essential using Eventbrite. Two time slots 11am-12noon and 1pm-2pm.**



**Dragon Eyes**  
**Friday 3 November**

Be inspired by our Magic of Middle Earth Exhibition and create your own clay dragon eye to take home. **Free, drop-in | 10-12pm, 1-3pm**



**Mill Ghosts and things that go bump in the night!**  
**Wednesday**  
**1 November**

Come along to create some creepy crafts in the Learning Hut. **Free, drop-in | 10-12pm, 1-3pm**

Find more Fiendish Fun online on the Barnsley Museums website:  
[www.barnsley-museums.com](http://www.barnsley-museums.com)

For all tickets:  
[barnsley-museums.arttickets.org.uk](http://barnsley-museums.arttickets.org.uk)  
[www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/barnsley-council-33542999817](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/barnsley-council-33542999817)

**#Booseum**