



# Weekly Family Newsletter

Monday 4th July 2022

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

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

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
What's Happening this Week?	Y1 Big PE		Sports Day (timings overleaf) - children to wear sports kits please Y2 Big PE Y2 Encanto Song and Dance After School Club	'Day to Create' Nursery Sports Day (for the children only) F2 Big PE Y1 Multi-skills After School Club	
And Next Week ?	Y1 Big PE	Halfway Junior Y3 staff to visit our Y2 children	Halfway Transition Day (see overleaf) Y2 Big PE Y2 Encanto Song and Dance After School Club	Y2 trip to Rother Valley F2 Big PE Y1 Multi-skills After School Club	



## Attendance for the week ending 1st July 2022:

Class	Attendance (%)
Mrs Jordan	81.7
Mrs Hibberd	77.3
Miss Dale	94.5
Mrs Bettinson/Mrs Briggs	76.7
Miss Hughes/ Mrs Hipkin	87.5
Mrs Timmons	82.7

Overall attendance for the week was 83.2%

## This Week

**Wednesday 6th July** - Year 1 sports event at 9.10am, Year 2 sports event at 10.20am, F2 sports event at 11.30am

(Each sports session will last a maximum of 1 hour)

**Thursday 7th July—“Day to Create”** - A special Arts Mark Community Day designed to support and celebrate children's ideas, imagination and creativity through whole school arts activities.

## Sun safety

As sunny weather is forecast for this week, please remember to apply sun block/high factor sunscreen to your child before school and to send them with a sun hat and a full water bottle.

## Dates for the Diary

Date and time	Event
<p>Wednesday 6th July</p> <p>Year 1 sports event at 9.10am Year 2 sports event at 10.20am F2 sports event at 11.30am</p> <p>Each sports session (above) will last a maximum of 1 hour.</p>	<p><b>The healthy 'Smoothie Bike' will be visiting the school yard to set our school aged children up for their Sports Day on 6th July.</b> We are delighted to be able to welcome parents/carers into school for Sports Day this year, now that restrictions have been lifted and our building work has been completed!</p> <p>Each year group will have its own age appropriate Sports Day session lasting for up to 60 minutes. The events have been organised by sports leaders and coaches from Westfield Comprehensive School and sessions will take place on the school field. Our catering contractor, Taylor Shaw, is providing both a Smoothie Bike and also a Hydration Station (fruit water) to keep the children hydrated during the events.</p> <p><b>Please can parents/carers stand behind the fence/wall on the yard (around the field) and only enter the school grounds 5 minutes before your child's start time. As all year groups' events will be running back to back, this will ensure that there is a smooth switch-over of adults at the end of each session.</b></p>
Thursday 7th July	<p><b>"Day to Create"</b> - A special Arts Mark Community Day designed to support and celebrate children's ideas, imagination and creativity through whole school arts activities. These will be planned as part of lessons and art-work will be shared with parents/carers on Tapestry.</p>
Tuesday 12th July	Junior School Year 3 staff to visit our school and spend time in class with our Year 2 children.
Wednesday 13th July	<p><b>Halfway Transition Day.</b> Children staying at the Infants will move to their next year group in our school, and Y2 children moving to Halfway Junior School will spend the day there. Names of class teachers for next school year will be shared ahead of this day.</p>
Thursday 14th July	<p><b>Year 2 End of HNIS school trip to Rother Valley. There will be more information from Y2 staff about this trip, but the trip does not involve any changes to timings or collection arrangements for Y2 children. The children will be fully supervised as they walk from school to Rother Valley and back to school again for collection at the usual time.</b></p>
Monday 18th July at 2 pm	<b>Year 1 Family Picnic session in our grounds</b> —more info to come from Y1 teachers...
Tues 19th July at 10.30 am and 2 pm	<b>End of nursery performances</b> for parents/carers, held in our nursery classroom. There will be 2 performances.
Tuesday 19th July	<b>End of Year reports</b> for school aged children sent home for parents/carers (including Phonics Screening outcomes, end of EYFS and KS1 assessments etc.)
Wednesday 20th July	<p><b>'End of Year Ball' for both nursery and school aged children!</b> Children are invited to wear party clothes for this celebration. There are lots of fun things in store for the children to enjoy during normal school hours—so there will be no changes to drop off and collection times.</p>
Thursday 21st July	<p><b>Special Y2 Celebration Assembly at 9am, followed by refreshments for the children and adults to share as a family</b> —parents/carers are welcome to attend an outdoor assembly and mid-morning refreshments on the yard (but, if the weather is inclement, we will move to the hall!)</p> <p><b>F2 Family Picnic Event in our grounds at 2pm.</b> More info to come from F2 teachers...</p>
Thursday 21st July	We have allocated 3.30pm to 4.30pm if any F2/Y1/Y2 parent/carer wishes to book a phone call to discuss the contents of their child's report. After reading through the report on 19th July, please request a call back with your child's teacher via the School Office if you wish to discuss any of its contents.
Friday 22nd July	Last day of school—school and nursery break up for the summer holiday at the usual time/s

As you know from this and previous newsletters, this year we have planned special summer activities that will take place at school, such as the End of Year Ball, party days, family picnic sessions (F2-Y1), Celebration Assembly with mid-morning snacks (Y2), Seaside Day for F2, Sports Days and end of year celebrations etc. We are excited about our families coming back into school to enjoy events again (after the restrictions of the pandemic, and then building work, prevented this!). We will be using the funds raised from the Jubilee events to cover the costs of the fun (such as booking a disco for the End of Year Ball) which means no charge to our families.

The costs of hiring coaches for trips has rocketed, in line with the price of fuel, and so has the cost of living generally. We would like to explore ways we can support all our families to access school/nursery trips which we are planning again for next year, including our Friends PTA Group raising funds to subsidise the cost of trips. If some of you have time to spare and would like to get together and discuss how you can bring the Friends Group back into operation next year to support the cost of trips in the future, we'd be really grateful and would love to hear from you so we can get the ball rolling!

## Sports Day

Sports leaders from Westfield Comprehensive School will be attending school on Wednesday 6th July to lead our Sports Day. Each child will be in one of seven teams - all named after Olympic athletes.

The morning has been split into sports sessions lasting no more than an hour per year group (timings for your child's year group overleaf). The children will be enjoying a series of sporting activities where they can apply skills they have been developing in their PE sessions at school and win points for their team.

**Please remember to apply sun block/high factor sunscreen to your child before school and to send them in their sports kits with sun hat and a full water bottle.** One of the 'stops' for the children on the field will also be a 'Hydration Station' which is being provided by our school meals provider, Taylor Shaw, and children will be able to top up their water bottles with fruit infused water.

Taylor Shaw will also be providing a complimentary 'Smoothie Bike' under the canopy on the yard before school on Sports Day. If you would like your child to cycle up their own smoothie breakfast before registration, please accompany them in the queue to blend their own smoothie as the Taylor Shaw catering staff kindly providing this opportunity will need your permission for your child to have a smoothie and will need to ask you if your child has any food allergies. The size of the bike is for school aged children and this activity will be available from 8:15-8:55am on Wednesday 6th July.

As the Sports Day sessions run back to back for each year group in school, please arrive no more than 5 minutes before your child's session time and wait outside the main pedestrian gate on Rotherham Road (unless your child's year group is the first session of the morning, as you'll be able to drop your child off at their class as normal and then stay in the school grounds until it starts). The gates will be locked whilst sessions are underway for safety, and we will invite the next group of spectators in to get their viewing spot once the previous group of parents/carers have left (parents/carers will be asked to stand on the play-ground side of the fencing/walls around the field where the events will take place).

Photographs are allowed on Sports Day to help you to capture those special memories, but it is very important that images that include other children **are not shared on the internet or social media** please.

### Nursery sports sessions

Our youngest nursery children will be enjoying their own version of Sports Day through a morning/afternoon of sporting activities on Thursday 7th July (these activities will be planned within their normal nursery session/hours). Nursery staff will be uploading lots of photographs of their sporting events onto Tapestry for parents/carers to enjoy. Please remember sports clothes/hats/water bottles/sunscreen. Please note that the Sports Day is just for the children, not for parents/carers. The children are very young and having their adults watching tends to unsettle them.

### Halfway Junior School

Halfway Junior School is having its Sports Day on Thursday 7th July and has asked if we can hang on to a few of the children if they have siblings in our school (just in case they run a few minutes over). Teachers are aware of this so, if you'll be attending the Junior's sports afternoon, please mention to them that you may be a little late.

## Holiday Activities for children in receipt of income-based free school meals

There are lots of fun free activities for children and young people in receipt of benefits-related/income-based free school meals, from Reception to Y11, to access during the summer break as part of the Sheffield Healthy Holidays programme. Places on the programme are limited.

Each eligible household will receive a letter inviting them to participate in the programme. For more information, and how to book online, please visit [www.sheffieldhealthyholidays.org](http://www.sheffieldhealthyholidays.org). Please note - the booking system should be live from today.

If you have any queries about the programme, please contact [hafprogramme2021@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:hafprogramme2021@sheffield.gov.uk) or phone the dedicated HAF phone number 0114 2039303.

Please note children in receipt of universal free school meals (Reception, Year 1 & Year 2) are not eligible for this programme.

## Transition in preparation for September

### In school transition

Transition arrangements start this week, with visits to new classrooms and year group/buildings over the next couple of weeks to help the children become familiar with their new spaces in preparation for September.

- New teaching staff will be visiting school where they can get to know staff and children before September!
- Staff will more formally meet their new children on **13th July** when the children will spend the day in their new classroom at both our school and Halfway Junior School. We have also invited new teaching staff to attend on this day, and they are hoping to be able to do so.
- Our transition plan puts children's needs and safety first. We appreciate that some children may need an enhanced or personalised transition plan to help them to prepare for upcoming changes/transitions e.g. if your child is on our SEND register, transition plans will be discussed and agreed as part of their upcoming SEND review. Please contact your class teacher directly should you have any questions/not be attending a review.
- I have also planned time for teachers to meet to share information with new class teachers about how super your children are so they too can prepare for their new class in September.
- If your child is moving from our Nursery onto a different school in your catchment area, or from Y2 to Y3, we are also making contact with new class teachers/schools to share key information to ensure a smooth transition between schools.
- Very similar processes are in place for children who will be new to our nursery or F2 in September. We have sent letters and welcome packs out to welcome families, and it was lovely to see so many attend our welcome meetings and also visits for our new starters. Our F2 staff will also be visiting our nursery and have been making individual phone calls home for children who will be completely new to school in September to further support transition.
- In line with Halfway Junior School, we will be sharing information with children and parents/carers on Wednesday regarding which teacher the children will have in September, in preparation for more activities to support the children next week, including time in their new classrooms with their new teacher on **WEDNESDAY 13TH JULY**

## **Platinum Jubilee gifts for our children**

### **1. Books to be presented to all school aged children**

The Department for Education commissioned and funded a commemorative book 'Queen Elizabeth: A Platinum Jubilee Celebration' as a gift to all children in state-funded primary school education in the UK. It is written for a reading age of 9 to 10 years old, upper key stage 2, but we have also been lucky enough to have been sent these for our school aged children.

The book explains what the Platinum Jubilee is and why it is a significant milestone in Her Majesty's reign. It covers:

- the system of constitutional monarchy in the UK and Commonwealth;
- the role of the monarch;
- important people, events, achievements, innovations and inventions in the UK and Commonwealth during Her Majesty's 70-year reign;

Each child in England from reception to year 6 will receive a book.

The book is available to buy from most high street or online booksellers, and, in September 2022, a digital version of the book will be available for free.

### **2. Commemorative coins**

The Joseph Stone Trust has kindly purchased a commemorative coin to present to children in their local schools to help the children to remember and celebrate the Platinum Jubilee. These coins will be presented to the children in a special assembly on Thursday morning when they visit us, so please look out for these in book bags on Thursday night and keep these somewhere very safe!

**With kindest regards,**

**Paula Bestall**

**Headteacher**