



Weekly Family Newsletter

Monday 20th September 2021

www.halfwaynurseryinfantschool.org

Caring, Sharing, Learning for Life.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
What's Happening this Week?	F2 Big PE Day		Whole School Super Starter—National Fitness Day (children to attend in sports kit please) Y1 Big PE Day	Y2 Big PE Day	
And Next Week ?	F2 Big PE Day		Meet the Y1 teachers ZOOM sessions Y1 Big PE Day	Meet the Y2 teachers ZOOM sessions Y2 Big PE Day	Fire engine and fire fighters visiting school

School attendance figures

Attendance for the week ending 17th September 2021:

Class	Attendance (%)
Enormous Crocodiles	96.0
Crafty Chameleons	100 🥳
Rainbow Fish	96.9
Hungry Caterpillars	94.7
Gruffalos	98.6
Elmers	99.3

Overall attendance for the week was 97.7%

This half term's 'Super Starter' for our topic—

National Fitness Day and Sheffield's 'Move More To Music Day' - 22nd September

National Fitness Day 2021 will take place on **Wednesday 22nd September**. This is a chance for schools to highlight the role physical activity plays across the UK, helping us to raise awareness of its importance in leading healthier lifestyles through being physical active.

Some schools in Sheffield are planning an active and fun filled day of movement and dance for the children to enjoy exercise as they learn.

Outdoor sports wear for all children on Wednesday please :-)

Home time safety

Please remember that both our Rotherham Road and also Station Road pedestrian gates can be used to enter the yard to drop children off at school and collect them again at home time to help ease congestion/crowds. Both gates will be unlocked from 2:45pm in preparation for home time.

Please also ask your children to remain with you before/after school, and please close any unsupervised gates behind you to help keep our children safe as the roads surrounding school are extremely busy.

Thank you for your support.

Dear parents/carers,

I hope you have all had a lovely weekend together and have enjoyed the last sunny weekend of the summer season, ahead of autumn officially arriving on Wednesday. This newsletter aims to share our plans/events for Autumn Term 1 with you, including key dates for the diary. In line with advice that Heads were given at Public Health Briefings last week, we will need to continue to consider the prevalence and case rates of the virus in our area as we organise and deliver events for the foreseeable future. Therefore, we are only able to share our plans leading up to the October break at this point in time.

I would also like to welcome all the families and children who have joined our nursery over the past few days. I know from my visits into our nursery provision that the children are settling in so well and are having a wonderful time with their new friends and the team up there!

Individual School Photographs

These will take place in school on **Tuesday 5th October**, so get those gleaming smiles and cracking hairstyles ready!

For individual photos, all classes (Nursery to Y2) will be taken to the photographer throughout the school day. After the photos have been taken, your child will come home with a card, explaining how to order copies of their photograph.

If you would like a family photograph taking of a sibling group, please book a space in one of our 5 minute slots on Eventbrite (<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/photo-day-5-october-tickets-172565587317>). Families will be asked to queue for a short while outside school (before the school day starts) whilst the photographer works their magic.

Bookable slots for sibling groups start at 8am, and we have informed Halfway Junior School that some of their children may be a little late on photo day if they are having their photo taken with their younger sibling/s.

We are using The School Photography Company for our individual school photographs this year - this company also took our class photos in May and they also take the photographs at Halfway Junior School. To facilitate the ordering of photos, we upload a list of children's names to the company's secure portal (you gave permission for this when you registered your child with us, but if you have any concerns, please contact us before Friday 24 September). You then order from/pay the company directly.

School tours for parents/carers applying for school places for Sept. 2022

Although the children have only just moved up into their current year group, we know that it is also that time of year again when parents/carers of F1 children and Y2 children are able to apply for school places. If you, or someone you know, would like to find out more about our school ahead of F2/Reception applications being submitted, please view our website as it offers a wealth of information, including virtual tours of school and our parent/carer prospectus. We are also planning outdoor visits for small groups of parents/carers of nursery aged children to book after half term, should they require any more information/if they are unfamiliar with our school and wish to visit before applying for F2 places.

(NB - we will need to consider case rates and current guidance before these visits go ahead in Nov/Dec).

Events this term

We are offering our full educational offer and curriculum and are carefully planning events for our families over the course of the term that are in line with the current guidance for schools. These include an upcoming 'Meet the Teacher' online session for KS1 parents/carers to hear about learning, timetables and expectations for your child's new year group (these will be led by teaching staff in each year group next week - dates below - and Zoom links will be shared in next Monday's newsletter).

Whilst many restrictions have eased for schools, we continue to work really hard to maintain the key measures to keep everyone as safe as we can—for example, increased ventilation, enhanced cleaning, hand hygiene, following NHS Track and Trace info. We also follow the guidance available to ensure we can give the children the best education, in addition to minimising the risks of Covid-19 outbreaks.

In line with recent advice to schools, meetings will also continue to take place virtually wherever possible/appropriate. Therefore, Parents' Consultations will also take place virtually again this term for safety (and also for your convenience too as we know many parents/carers reported that they found these appointments more accessible to attend when they were online last year!). Booking links will be sent home later this week, although if you are not able to attend a virtual event, please do inform us so we can offer support as we would like all events to be accessible.

Whilst our plans are subject to change, our events this half term are as follows:



HALFWAY NURSERY INFANT SCHOOL PLANNER | Autumn Term 1 2021-2022

Everything we do in our school is centred around our children's needs and wellbeing, and therefore the following plans may need to be adjusted as the year progresses (in addition to other events also being added).

AUTUMN TERM 1 Topic - The best me I can be! Safety and Wellbeing (PE, PSHE, RSE and Science focus)	Wednesday 1st September	TRAINING DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED
	Thursday 2nd September	School re-opens to children
	w/c 13th September	Sports coaches back in school
	Wednesday 22nd September	Whole school 'Super Starter' for our topic - National Fitness Day 2021 to highlight the role physical activity plays across the UK, helping us raise awareness of its importance in helping us lead healthier lifestyles through being physically active.
	Wednesday 29th September	'Meet the Y1 Teachers' Zoom session for Y1 parents/carers - 4pm Attend a short session to speak with year group staff and find out more about the curriculum in your child's new year group (Key Stage 1 sessions, as F1 and F2 parents/carers attended a similar session before transition)
	Thursday 30th September	'Meet the Y2 Teachers' Zoom session for Y2 parents/carers - 4pm
	Friday 1st October	Fire engine and fire fighters visiting - covering their roles in the community, fire safety, Bonfire Night safety etc.
	Tuesday 5th October	Nursery and School photographs (individuals and siblings)
	Tuesday 5th October	Parents' Evening 3-6pm (Zoom)
	Wednesday 13th October	Parents' Evening 3-6pm (Zoom)
	Friday 22nd October	TRAINING DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED (Paediatric first aid training)
School closed for half-term holiday HALF TERM W/B 25th October		

With kind regards,

Paula Bestall (Headteacher)

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