



Weekly Family Newsletter

Monday 9th May 2022

www.halfwaynurseryinfantschool.org

Caring, Sharing, Learning for Life.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
What's Happening this Week?	Y2 SATs start today		Y1 Big PE Day 3pm Y1 Encanto Song and Dance After School Club starts	Y2 Big PE Day 3pm Y2 Multi-skills After School Club	
And Next Week ?	Y2 SATS continue this week Walk to School Week starts		Y1 Big PE Day 3pm Y1 Encanto Song and Dance After School Club	Y1 Phonics session for parents/carers via ZOOM—4:30pm Y2 Big PE Day 3pm Y2 Multi-skills After School Club	



Attendance for the week ending 6th May 2022:

Class	Attendance (%)
Mrs Jordan	94.3
Mrs Hibberd	91.0
Miss Dale	98.3
Mrs Bettinson/Mrs Briggs	96.4
Miss Hughes/ Mrs Hipkin	92.9
Mrs Timmons	95.4

Overall attendance for the week was 94.6%

Dates for the diary

- Queen's Jubilee celebrations for the children in school and nursery will take place on Thursday **May 26th** (see information overleaf!)
- **Friday May 27th** - INSET day (school closed)
- Half term holiday—**28th May to 5th June**
- **Mon 6th June***— **school closed** due to day in lieu of the Queen's Jubilee that falls in the half term holiday (see below for more information)
- **Wed 6th July** - Sports Day (led by Sports Leaders from Westfield - times for each year group TBC).
- **2022/23 INSET Days** The INSET days for 2022/2023 have now been agreed. They are....
Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd September 2022
Tuesday January 3rd 2023
Monday February 20th 2023
Friday May 26th 2023

*School will be closed to the children on **Monday 6th June** as we have set this as the additional day that schools have been given for the Jubilee this year (schools are free to set this themselves so the actual date differs between schools, although we have set the same date as the Junior School to minimise impact for parents/carers).

Why do schools have an additional day off in place of the bank holiday this year?

The 2021-22 calendar includes an additional bank holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The traditional bank holiday has been moved to Thursday 2 June and the additional day will be on Friday 3 June. As the bank holiday takes place during the Spring Bank school holiday, 'teaching and non teaching staff will be entitled to an additional day's leave. The government has therefore legislated to reduce the teaching year from 190 to 189 days. Individual schools will decide when to take the additional day.' (Taken from: <https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/schools-childcare/school-information-term-dates>)

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations at Halfway Nursery Infant School



With the upcoming Jubilee fast approaching, we wanted to let everyone know how we plan to celebrate this event in school and nursery.

On Thursday 26th May we plan to have our very own Jubilee Party Day. The children and staff are welcome to wear party clothes fit for a royal celebration, or, if you prefer, their usual clothes with a red/white/blue theme. We do hope to have this celebration outside (in 'street party' style!) but, due to the temperamental, ever-changing British weather, we have back up plans to ensure the children have a fantastic day, whatever the weather! Taylor Shaw has also kindly offered to do a special picnic/buffet style themed lunch for the children on this day, in keeping with the theme.

Due to the building work, the usable space in our school and on the school grounds is limited (and, therefore, the number we are safely able to accommodate on our site at the present time is also limited for safety). Whilst this means that we are unable to extend the invitation for parents/carers to attend large events until the work has been completed, the children will all be celebrating the Jubilee in style, and we have some lovely activities planned on the 26th which we hope will create really special memories for them. We will not let a little thing like a major building project stop us from celebrating and having a party day that is fit for royalty!

We would love to get everyone at home involved as much as possible, and, therefore, our History Curriculum Lead – Mrs Briggs—has also planned a fun competition for you to join in with at home; we will be having a competition to recreate the Coronation Portrait. You can be creative and use anything you already have at home to make your own version of this famous portrait. Please post your competition entries onto Tapestry no later than Monday 23rd May with the title 'Coronation Portrait'.



We will then choose one winner per year group that will be announced on Thursday 26th May, and the winning entries will be presented with a very special prize.

Thank you to Mrs Briggs for organising this, and for sending this great example of an entry!

We will also be having a raffle with some really amazing prizes! Tickets will be available to purchase on the mornings of Tuesday 17th, Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th May from the bottom playground.

Good luck everyone!

Phonics Screening Check - Information meeting for parents/carers

Y1 children will be sitting the national Phonics Screening Check 7th-10th June 2022 (in addition to any Y2 children who need to retake this check).

Whilst we are a few weeks away from this, the Y1 staff are planning a briefing session for parents/carers to give you an opportunity to find out more about the statutory check and to view examples of past papers. If your child is in Y1, please log into this live session on ZOOM if you are able to do so - it will take place at 4.30pm on Thursday 19th May.

ZOOM link to follow.

Building update

The plasterers finished on site last week, so the new building is now buzzing with joiners who are fitting door frames, doors, architrave and skirting board etc. The new staff kitchen arrived today and is also being fitted this week, which we are super excited about after not having a staffroom to make a cup of tea in for the past few months!

The project is all set to be completed at the beginning of June, so staff and children should be back in this building again a week or two after half term.



Nursery News

- We would like to invite any prospective new nursery children parents/carers to look around nursery on **Friday 27th May at 11.30 am**. This is an INSET training day, so there will be no children in school or nursery and the staff can give you their undivided attention!
- If you are providing your child with a packed lunch, could you please ensure that food such as grapes, sausages and tomatoes are cut into smaller pieces before being added to the lunch box for safety.
- Nursery would be really grateful for donations of age appropriate jigsaws and any unwanted small plastic animal figures please.
- Please send in items for junk modelling/the children's creative table e.g. clean plastic lids/bottles/tubes etc. (please do not send boxes into nursery that have been used for food items containing nuts. Also, we are unable to use egg boxes, toilet roll tubes or containers from medicines etc. in junk modelling for health and safety reasons).

Reading at home using Bug Club

We know that many of our families access **Bug Club** to support reading at home. Here is a quick reminder for anyone who is not currently accessing it as Bug Club provides lots of lovely resources that you can access from the comfort of your own sofa! To make the most of these online resources that we invest in as a school, make sure you are looking for the 'bug' logo within each book - this can occur on multiple pages.



Where you see the 'bug' make sure to click on it. This will direct your child to a quiz section where they will answer questions based on the text read so far. This helps to develop their comprehension skills/understanding of the text.



Once they have answered the questions and you have clicked 'done', your child will be told whether the answer is correct. If it is incorrect the programme will instruct your child to have another attempt. Once the questions have been completed, click the book in the bottom right hand corner to return to reading the text. When children have finished all of the quiz questions in a book, they will earn 'coins' which they can then spend on 'rewards' in one of the reward areas accessed via their homepage. The more books and quizzes they complete, the more 'coins' they earn!

Happy reading!

Sun safety

As the weather gets warmer, please can we take this opportunity to share a few simple but important sun safety steps, as recommended by the NHS - <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/sunscreen-and-sun-safety/>.

Sun safety tips

- Spend time in the shade when the sun is strongest. In the UK, this is between 11am and 3pm, from March to October
- Never burn
- Cover up with suitable clothing and sunglasses
- Take extra care with children
- Wear a high factor sunscreen with both UVA and UVB protection
- Wear suitable clothing, and spend time in the shade when the sun is at its hottest.

To help us keep your child safe in the sun at school, we ask you please to support us by:

- Applying a **high factor sunscreen/sunblock** (with a high UVA and UVB rating – the higher the rating, the better) to your child before nursery/school. Whilst we take precautions to limit sun exposure and offer shady spaces, much of the children's learning takes place both inside and outside. In addition to this, you may also wish to provide additional sunscreen for your child to apply during the day (**which should be clearly labelled with your child's name and handed to their teacher please**), as we can encourage children to re-apply this over the course of the day when the weather requires it.
- Bringing a **sun hat** for your child to wear (a wider brim protects their neck/ears), with his/her name inside.
- Providing your child with a **bottle filled with fresh water** each day to keep him/her hydrated.
- Dressing your child in **clothes that cover and protect the skin** e.g. covering shoulders and legs etc.

Walk to School Week 16th-20th May

Let's work together to make as many 'active journeys' as possible next week!

It is **Walk to School Week** next week and the weather forecast is looking perfect for it!

To encourage children to walk to school—and to acknowledge their efforts—they will receive a sticker at school every day they walk or make a more active journey e.g. if you live too far away from school and, therefore, need to use transport to get here safely, perhaps park a little further away from the school so you can join in too! This will also reduce congestion and air pollution at the school gates as well as improving road safety. The children will earn a badge at the end of the week if they walk to school, and even the staff will be involved where they can. Let's take those steps and get walking!

Whilst this is a national promotion to increase physical activity and to help reduce traffic pollution etc, we understand that even walking part of the way to school might not be an option for all, so please don't worry if you are unable to participate.

With kindest regards,

Paula Bestall