



Weekly Family Newsletter

Monday 13th December 2021

www.halfwaynurseryinfantschool.org

Caring, Sharing, Learning for Life.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
What's Happening this Week?	4.30 pm Nursery Zoom Christmas performance	9:15am Mini outdoor Carol Concert—Y2 Nursery Christmas Party Day – morning and afternoon sessions. Children can wear a Christmas jumper or party clothes (no 'fancy dress' outfits please) 4pm Y2 Zoom Christmas performance	9:15am Mini outdoor Carol Concert—Y1 Christmas Dinner Day for all children. Children to wear school uniform, but they can bring a Christmas hat, headband, etc. to wear on their head. 4pm Y1 Zoom Christmas performance	2:30pm Mini outdoor Carol Concert—F2 4pm F2 Zoom Christmas performance	School Christmas Party Day. Children can wear a Christmas jumper or party clothes (no 'fancy dress' outfits please) Last day of the Autumn Term – school breaks up for Christmas today
And Next Week ?	School closed	School closed	School closed	School closed	School closed



Attendance for the week ending 10th December 2021:

Class	Attendance (%)
Mrs Jordan	92.3
Mrs Hibberd	98.3
Miss Dale	96.5
Mrs Bettinson/Mrs Briggs	97.0
Miss Hughes/ Mrs Hipkin	95.2
Mrs Timmons	98.6

Overall attendance for the week was 96.3%

Upcoming Diary Dates



This week's PE Challenge

Challenge: Christmas Movements

Can you take giant steps like Santa? Can you move quickly like a busy elf? Can you gallop like a reindeer? Can you pretend to be in Santa's sleigh?



UPCOMING INSET DAY

A quick reminder that school and nursery will be closed for staff training on Tuesday 4th January 2022.

The children therefore start back on Wednesday 5th January 2022.

It's the last school week of 2021! Here is a run down of the festive fun this week...

Mini Carol Concerts

We are planning to go ahead with our outdoor Mini Carol Concerts for our school aged children this week. These will be short events of around 15 minutes where the children sing you a few Christmas songs to help you start to get that festive feeling!

In line with Public Health advice for this event, a space will be cordoned off on the yard for the children to allow distance between the children and the audience. The events are for parents/children in your child's year group only to help us to manage the number of people in attendance. If you are attending your child's Mini Carol Concert, please take the following steps before you attend:

- Please take a LFD Covid test at home before attending the event (this is strongly encouraged by Public Health Sheffield)
- Anyone with symptoms should not attend this event
- Please wear a face covering (unless exempt)
- Please find a space on the yard to enjoy the songs

As singing increases the risk of Covid-19 transmission, the children will be at a distance away from the audience and other classes.

Christmas Dinner Day—Wednesday 15th December

Please note that jacket potatoes and school sandwiches will not be available on Wednesday due to the amount of preparation needed for the children's Christmas Dinner. However, children are able to bring a festive packed lunch from home as an alternative.

Children should wear school uniform as normal on Wednesday please, but they can bring a Christmas hat, headband, tinsel accessory etc. to wear on their head.

Party Days – Tuesday 14th December (Nursery) and Friday 17th December (F2, Y1, Y2)

Children can wear a Christmas jumper or party clothes on their party day. We will provide individually wrapped food such as a bag of crisps, fruit and packet of sweets per child (for safety—food will not be shared by the children to minimise risks of Covid-19 infection. If your child has allergies you have made us aware of, classroom staff will speak to you to ensure the party food meets your child's dietary needs). All classes will have party games and dancing, a film and other Christmassy activities. A big thank you to the 'Friends of Halfway Nursery Infant School' group for their support to make our Christmas activities possible and free of charge to families, and, also, thank you for all your support!

Also to note.....

Winter 'Holiday Activities with Food Programme' (HAF) Dec 18th -23rd 2021

HAF Voluntary Sector Coordinators are working with a range of providers across Sheffield programming activities (including healthy food) during the school Christmas Holidays. These activities are open to children who are eligible for 'benefits based' free school meals. Activities will range from football to arts/craft/cultural activities, cooking, and lots more. A healthy meal will be provided at all activities. The HAF programme is a fantastic opportunity for eligible young people to have a fun filled engaging Christmas break. Please note children in receipt of universal free school meals are not eligible for this programme. Parents/ carers can register and book activities at <https://sheffieldhealthyholidays.org>. There is also a dedicated phone line to handle any queries families may have with using the online registration/booking system - 0114 2039303 or email hafprogramme2021@sheffield.gov.uk.

Zoom with Santa!

We are so excited that the big man himself has made time in his very busy schedule this season to spend a day contacting all our classes in school. They have been very good boys and girls this year (and the staff have been on their best behaviour too!), so he jumped at the chance to visit us all virtually on Thursday 16th December. Children will be able to talk to Santa and ask him questions through live Zoom sessions

To ensure online safety is taken into account:

- each teacher will host this call for the whole class and privacy settings will be applied;
- the Zoom calls will be led and fully supervised by classroom staff (...which they are so excited about!);
- no personal data will be shared on the Zoom call other than the class name;
- live sessions will not be recorded;
- the special person who will be Zooming in to see us is very well known to the school, and has therefore undergone all safeguarding checks.

As this is not being recorded and no data is being shared, the photograph permissions we have in school already covers this Zoom with Santa session.

There will be no charge for this as we would love for all our children to see Santa this Christmas, and we hope that the children will feel very merry indeed on Thursday when their special call takes place...!

Christmas Celebrations on Zoom

You will receive a link in preparation for the Zoom 'premiere' of your class Christmas Celebration performance (timetable shown below). The links should not be shared please, and we will need to check that we know the people joining the meeting before inviting them into the Zoom call. This is for the children's safety.

Nursery	4.30 pm Monday 13th December
F2	4 pm Thursday 16th December
Y1	4 pm Wednesday 15th December
Y2	4 pm Tuesday 14th December

Please remember:

- To log in with a recognisable surname, and also ensure that the camera is on so we can see you/recognise everyone in the audience;
- No recording of the Zoom call please as we will, hopefully, be able to share this again after the Zoom meeting on Tapestry (...technology willing and if parental permissions allow).
- Please Zoom from a shared family area such as a lounge or dining room etc. (Sheffield online safety guidelines recommends avoiding Zooming from a child's personal space such as a bedroom)
- Get those Christmas accessories/jumpers out and hot chocolate on ready for the performance (...optional!)

See you all there!

After School Activity Clubs, Spring 1 (after Christmas)

Parents/Carers of our Y1 and Y2 children should have received a text with a link to a form for booking after-school clubs after Christmas. We are offering:

- Y1 Football on Thursdays
- Y2 Disney Song and Dance on Wednesdays

All the details are on the forms, so please check back through your text messages for information and to request a place for your child. The closing date to apply is **16 December** and places will be allocated after Christmas - so look out for a letter.

School meals menus for next term

Attached to the newsletter you will find the school meals menus for next term.

Christmas Jumper Day Fund Raising

With your help Christmas Jumper Day raised £141 for Save The Children. Thank you for your support.

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day fundraising page. The page features a prominent banner with the text "We're joining Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day!" and a photo of a smiling child in a red patterned jumper. Below the banner, a progress bar shows that £141 has been raised out of a target of £200. The page includes sections for "ACHIEVEMENTS" with icons for "Your picture", "Songstar", "A magical story", and "You raised £20". There are also icons for "£60", "£100", and "£130" raised. The page also has a "SHARE PAGE" section with social media icons and a "OUR STORY" section with a "MESSAGE FROM SAVE THE CHILDREN" and a "THE LATEST" section with a list of updates.

Update from Sheffield City Council

The following information has been sent to all education and childcare settings on implementing Plan B of the COVID-19 Response: Autumn and Winter Plan.

Attendance

School attendance remains mandatory and all the usual rules continue to apply. Enabling children and young people to attend their education setting regularly continues to be a national priority.

Face coverings

Face coverings should be worn by students in year 7 and above (which would be children who were aged 11 on 31 August 2021), staff and visitors in communal areas, unless exempt. NB - Local Directors of Public Health may also advise schools in their area to wear face coverings temporarily in the classroom, if needed, due to increasing case rates.

Wrap around provision

Schools and early years settings should continue to offer their usual before and after-school activities, including wraparound childcare. These activities provide valuable childcare for working parents and carers and promote the wellbeing of children and young people.

Working from home

The government has stated that office workers who can work from home should do so from Monday 13 December. The announcement also said that anyone who cannot work from home should continue to go into work – for example, to access equipment necessary for their role, or where their role must be completed in-person. In-person working will be necessary in some cases to continue the effective and accessible delivery of some public services and private industries.

The government expects all education and childcare settings, including further and higher education providers, to continue to provide face-to-face teaching, and staff should continue to attend their place of work if required in order to deliver this. Teaching and learning should not be moved online as a result of the work from home guidance.

Testing

The government strongly encourages staff to continue regular testing (LFD not PCR) and reporting their results.

Settings are strongly encouraged to ask parents, carers and other visitors to take a lateral flow device (LFD) test before entering the setting.

Isolation

All individuals who have been identified as a close contact of a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant of COVID-19, irrespective of vaccination status and age, will continue to be required to self-isolate and asked to book a PCR test.

The Government plans to introduce Daily Contact Testing as soon as possible as an alternative to self-isolation for contacts of positive Omicron cases who are fully vaccinated or under the age of 18 years and 6 months.

January return

All education and childcare settings have been advised to revisit their existing outbreak plans to ensure they are well prepared for any future changes.

The government recently asked all secondary schools to provide an on-site test for pupils on return in January. Testing in school helps to boost participation and will help reduce transmission after a period of mixing over the holidays.

COVID Financial Help

The Household Support fund launched at the beginning of November and replaces the Local Authority Hardship Fund. If you know someone who is struggling to afford essentials like food or heating payments, and have exhausted other benefit options this fund could help them. Winter 2021 Covid-19 financial help is available, including the Household support fund and also the £500 Test & Trace Payment.

Follow the link below to find out more about the Household support fund and how to apply for it...

https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/your-city-council/coronavirus-hub/support-for-people?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=#emergencygrant?

Christmas Stars at Halfway Nursery Infant School!

I hope you will agree that the children have been sensational yet again this year - we really could not have asked for any more. They returned to school ready to learn, have adjusted to lots of changes from national guidance and have worked their socks off! We are so proud of them. A huge thank you to each and every staff member as the same applies to them too! Thank you staff for all your hard work, dedication and for putting 100% into everything you do.

A big thank you to you for your support in 2021 too - it has been another year of challenges for so many, and our gorgeous children and the support from our families really has shone through and has meant so much to all of us. We really are privileged to work with such an amazing school community.

On behalf of everyone at Halfway Nursery Infant School, we wish you all a very safe and merry Christmas and happy and healthy 2022!

With very best wishes,

Paula Bestall

Headteacher



HALFWAY NI 2021 - 22 TERM 2 MENU



Colours in the 1st column represent the food category and should choose for the meal that day

WEEK ONE		GREEN MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEKS COMMENCING: 03/01/22 : 24/01/22 : 14/02/22 : 07/03/22 : 28/03/22	Main Course	Vegetarian Chili with Mixed Rice and Mint Yoghurt	Classic Pasta Bolognese & Garlic Bread	Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes, Stuffing & Gravy	Creamy Chicken & Butternut Korma Curry & Mixed Rice	Crispy Fish Finger Sandwich with Chips & Optional Lemon Slaw or Tomato Sauce
	Vegetarian Main Course	Wholemeal Margherita Pizza Slice with Jacket Wedges	Vegetarian Mince Spaghetti Bolognese & Garlic Bread	Roast Vegetarian Balls with Roast Potatoes, Stuffing & Gravy	Vegetable Korma with Mixed Rice	Crispy Vegetarian Burger with Chips & Optional Lemon Slaw or Tomato Sauce
	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato with Cheese or Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans or Salmon Mayo	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayo	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayo	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayo
	Sandwiches	Cheese Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich
	Sandwiches		Ham Sandwich	Ham Sandwich	Ham Sandwich	Ham Sandwich
	Vegetables	Green Beans & Sweetcorn	Broccoli & Roasted Vegetables	Cauliflower & Seasonal Greens	Carrots & Sweetcorn	Baked Beans & Garden Peas
	Dessert	Vanilla Sponge with Mandarins	Apple Flapjack	Apple Crumble	Watermelon & Pineapple Slices	Chocolate Cookie
WEEK TWO		GREEN MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEKS COMMENCING: 10/01/22 : 31/01/22 : 21/02/22 : 14/03/22 : 04/04/22	Main Course	Wholemeal Margherita Pizza with Herby Diced Potatoes	Cheesy Ham & Broccoli Spaghetti with Herby Focaccia	Roast Chicken with Yorkshire Pudding, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Classic Shepherd's Pie	Crispy Breaded Fish Fingers & Chips with Tomato Sauce
	Vegetarian Main Course	Smoky Spiced Vegetable Stew with Mexican Rice & Homemade Tortilla Chips	Chinese Vegetable Curry & Mixed Rice & Naan	Roast Vegetarian Balls with Yorkshire Pudding, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Creamy Baked Macaroni Cheese	Vegetarian Hot Dog with Onions & Chips with Tomato Sauce
	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato with Cheese or Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayo	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayo	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayo	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayo
	Sandwiches	Cheese Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich
	Sandwiches		Ham Sandwich	Ham Sandwich	Ham Sandwich	Ham Sandwich
	Vegetables	Sweetcorn with Peppers & Garden Peas	Green Beans & Cauliflower	Carrots & Savoy Cabbage	Broccoli & Roasted Winter Vegetables	Baked Beans & Garden Peas
	Dessert	Oaty Raisin Cookies with Watermelon Slice	Pear Upside Down Cake with Chocolate Drizzle	Jam Tart & Custard	Lemon & Blueberry Yoghurt Cake	(Hidden) Beetroot Brownie
WEEK THREE		GREEN MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEKS COMMENCING: 17/01/22 : 07/02/22 : 28/02/22 : 21/03/22 : 11/04/22	Main Course	Vegetarian Meatballs with a Mediterranean Tomato Sauce & Fluffy Cous Cous	Traditional Toad in the Hole with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy	Roast Chicken with Boiled Potatoes, Stuffing & Gravy	Mild Piri Piri Chicken & Lentil Bake with Mixed Rice	Classic Friday Fish & Chips with Tomato Sauce
	Vegetarian Main Course	Wholemeal Margherita Pizza with Baby Baked Potatoes	Vegetable & Wholewheat Tortilla Lasagne	Quorn Roast with Boiled Potatoes, Stuffing & Gravy	Tomato, Basil & Courgette Pasta Bake	Mozzarella & Fresh Tomato Melt with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato with Cheese or Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayo	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayo	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayo	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayo
	Sandwiches	Cheese Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich
	Sandwiches		Ham Sandwich	Ham Sandwich	Ham Sandwich	Ham Sandwich
	Vegetables	Mixed Vegetables & Garden Salad	Green Beans & Cauliflower	Wok Bashed Vegetables & Carrots	Broccoli & Sweetcorn	Baked Beans & Garden Peas
	Dessert	Chocolate Shortbread with Apple Smiles	Carrot Cake Cookie	Peach Shortcake Bar & Custard	Watermelon & Pineapple Slices	Lemon & Courgette Slice

Yoghurt and fruit will also be available each day as an alternative to dessert. A selection of breads, salads and fresh drinking water will be available daily.