



# Weekly Newsletter

Monday 28th September 2020

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

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

## School dinners return!

Now the children have adjusted to their new lunchtime routines and seating plan (which avoids contact between different class bubbles in the hall at lunchtime), I am pleased to announce that hot lunches will be on the menu again each day from Monday 5th October!

Meals will be prepared in the kitchen by catering staff wearing PPE for safety and meals will be served to the children at their table (instead of children queuing at the hot counter—to minimise movement/contact with others).

Children will be able to choose from:

- A hot meal of the day (such as meat pie, cheese and tomato pizza, pasta and meatballs, chicken curry etc.)
- A jacket potato (with beans/cheese/tuna), or
- A sandwich (ham or cheese) option

A revised menu will be emailed to you later this week when we receive this from Taylor Shaw.

## Fish and Chips Take Away Day! Thursday 1st October

We know how much our children have missed their No.1# school dinner... fish and chips! To whet their appetites for hot school meals returning, and also to generate future funding for school, we have organised a special 'Fish and Chip Take Away Day' for the children at lunchtime on Thursday 1st October, our **school census day**. The kitchen team has ordered special 'take away' style recyclable chip boxes for the children to celebrate in style the return of their favourite lunch!

### **What is census day?**

On two days every year (in October and January) we have a school census where we submit data about the numbers of children in school and whether they are having a school meal or are eligible for an income based Free School Meal. Our school's funding is calculated from this information. The money that the school is given each year to pay for the free meals that all Infant School children get (under the 'Universal Infant School Meals' scheme) is based on the average of how many children have a school meal on census day. **We, therefore, need as many children as possible to have a school dinner (Fish and Chip Special, jacket potato or school sandwich Grab Bag) on Thursday 1st October. Please to help our school receive the funding we need.**

## Crossing is coming!

We are delighted to say that Councillor Tony Dowling has contacted school to confirm that Sheffield City Council has given the go ahead for work to begin to design a new pedestrian crossing outside school on Station Road! A huge thank you to our local Councillors, governors, parents/carers and local residents who have supported this.

## Sportsmark Award 2020



In June we applied for the Key Stage 1 Sportsmark Award, an annual Kitemark that reflects the level of PE, sport and physical activity provided in schools at KS1. We are delighted to announce that we achieved a Sportsmark Merit award! A big thank you to our sports leader Miss Maloney and to our sports coaches Jess and Rich for their support!

We are looking forward to Jess and Rich returning to lead PE sessions for Y1 and Y2 children this week.

## **Remote Learning at Halfway Nursery Infant School**

Tapestry is a secure online Learning Journal that we are introducing to record photos, observations and comments on learning for each child, in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage and KS1 curriculums, to build up a record of a child's experiences during his/her time with us.

Each individual child will have his/her own online Learning Journal. Please keep an eye out for photographs and observations of your child's learning which will be added from school. We will also use Tapestry in place of our pupil planners as we will record notes from reading observations and share home learning, spellings and targets etc. on there with you too. We welcome you to submit any observations from home, as these will help contribute towards the assessment of your child. We really do enjoy reading about their learning at home!

The government has asked all schools to develop a 'remote learning plan' by the end of September (to make learning easily accessible and enable staff to make regular contact with children who may not be able to be educated in school due to household isolation, or in the event of short term class bubble closure etc.). Our plan is built around the use of Tapestry and this will be the main way we share remote learning with families. Staff will be able to upload learning activities, videos of themselves teaching the inputs for phonics, Maths and English etc. as well as setting learning for all subjects to ensure the curriculum offered is broad and balanced both at home and school (e.g. including PE, science, art and design, computing etc.).

Parents/carers who sign up for this/give their permission will be able to log in to view their child's learning profile from home - either by downloading the free Tapestry App or by logging into the Tapestry website (there is a link on the home page of school website).

If you haven't done so already, please send your permission letters back into school asap as Tapestry goes live this week! If you are unable to complete the letter sent home electronically last week, an email stating your permission is also fine.

### **Vacancy for a parent governor**

We have a vacancy on the school's governing body for a parent governor. We are looking for someone who has a child or children currently attending this Nursery or Infant School, has an interest in the performance of the school, a desire to contribute to and represent the community, the ability to look at issues objectively, the confidence to ask questions and join in debate, a willingness to listen and make informed judgements, the ability to work well with others and time to spare. A letter will be sent out later in the week with further details and how to express interest in joining our governing body.

### **Returning booking forms for Superkids extended services**

If you need to book your child into our Superkids after school service, please remember that **completed booking forms must be returned to Jenette by Thursday of the preceding week**— otherwise it may not be possible for your child to have a place due to COVID 19 related restrictions on numbers we can accommodate.

### **NURSERY NEWS**

We would like to welcome all the new children who have started in our nursery. They, and those who attended last year, are settling in really well and are already making new friends and enjoying the lovely activities on offer.

Could we ask parents/carers please to label all the children's clothing - including their coats—so that the names can be read easily by staff. Please could you also label children's lunch boxes.

We would find it really helpful if you could let your child practise putting on and removing their own coat independently — including zipping and unzipping the garment.

Hot meals will also be available for nursery children daily from next Monday, 5th October. Before that date we have a special fish and chip meal available this Thursday (1st October), in line with the rest of school.

# COVID 19 Update

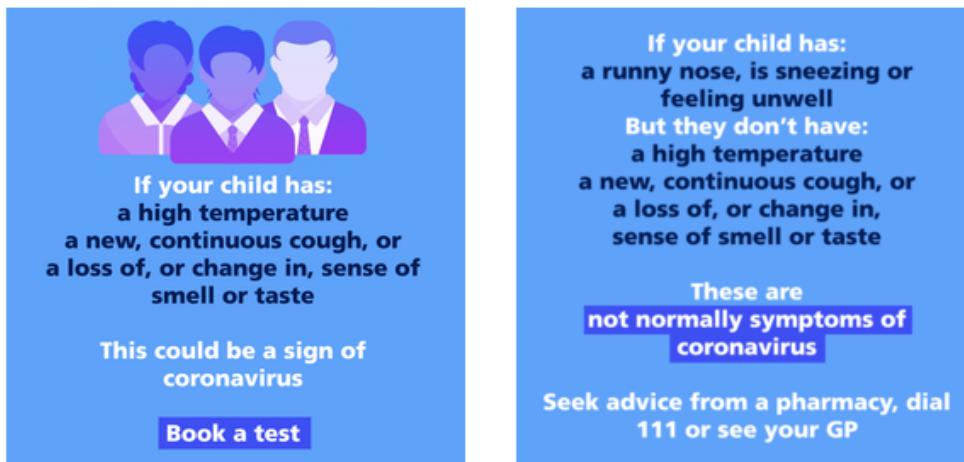
## Covid-19 symptoms: Is it a cold, flu or coronavirus?

As winter approaches, lots of different viruses will circulate - including seasonal cold and flu.

Schools and parents are already experiencing the challenges of having to differentiate between cold and flu symptoms and those of COVID-19, and Sheffield City Council Communications team is currently working on a Quick Guide for Parents/Carers and a Symptoms Infographic to help everyone to understand the subtle differences. This will be circulated as soon as we receive this. In the interim, the attached link from the BBC provides helpful advice:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-54145299>

## When you should book a COVID-19 test for your child?



<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-parents-and-guardians-when-you-should-book-a-coronavirus-test-for-your-child/letter-to-parents-and-guardians-when-you-should-book-a-coronavirus-test-for-your-child>

## NHS Covid-19 App

The NHS Covid19 App is a simple way to help protect those we love. It is part of the large scale coronavirus (COVID-19) testing and contact tracing programme and will be used, alongside traditional contact tracing, to notify users if they come into contact with someone who later tests positive for coronavirus – helping to keep us all safer. The NHS COVID-19 App alerts people at risk of coronavirus, asking them to isolate before they potentially pass the virus on to others as well as providing local area alerts and QR venue check-in. The app will help the NHS understand if the virus is spreading in a particular area, and so local authorities can respond quickly to stop it spreading further and save lives. The app does this while protecting a user's anonymity.



Take care and stay safe,

With best wishes

**Paula Bestall  
Headteacher**



## Halfway NI School

CENSUS DAY – 1<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER 2020

## MENU

Fish Fingers

Bean Bake

Chips

Chocolate Muffin



## **Virtual Parent Consultation Evenings**

Our Parent Consultation Evenings will take place on Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th October, between 3.40pm-6.30pm and 3.40pm-5.30pm, respectively. We will be hosting the meetings virtually this year using Zoom. The 10 minute appointments will give you the chance to discuss how well your child has settled in to the new term.

Like previous years, we will be using Parent's Evening Manager on ParentMail, so you can book your appointment from your smartphone, tablet or computer. You will be alerted instantly once the appointment booking goes live on Wednesday 30th September at 4pm and will be able to select appointment times that are convenient to you.

It is all very straightforward, but if you need help you can visit the ParentMail help site: <https://www.parentmail.co.uk/help/parenthelp/>

Please note, you will need to be registered on ParentMail to be able to book appointments – if you haven't received a registration email or text, please contact the school office. Once registered, if you have an Android or Apple smartphone, we would highly recommend you download the Halfway Junior School app, so you can book appointments on your phone as soon as the appointment booking goes live! To do this, simply search for "Halfway Junior School" in your App store. If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the school office to make an appointment.

## **School Photographer – Reminder – Tuesday 29th September**

Our school photographer will be in school tomorrow to take individual school photographs.

Siblings within school will also be having their photographs taken together. Our photographer will be wearing the appropriate PPE and children will remain standing for their photograph this year. Siblings will be collected from their classrooms by a member of staff and will remain socially distanced from children in other bubbles.

## **Sheffield Wednesday Inclusive Football**

The Sheffield Wednesday Community Programme want to engage as many pupils who may have SEND, physical or non-visible disabilities and get them involved in football and sports in general. With this in mind, the club will be running free football based sessions which will take place on Tuesdays 5-6pm at Hillsborough Arena and Wednesdays 5.15-6.15pm at Concord Park.

The sessions are designed for both male and female participants and for children of all abilities, the aim is to build confidence, keep fit and more importantly have some fun! Covid-19 track and trace procedures are in place and children will use hand sanitizer before and after the sessions. For more details or to request a booking form, please email [paul.hebda@swfc.co.uk](mailto:paul.hebda@swfc.co.uk)

## **Eckington School – Virtual Open Evening**

The content of the Eckington School virtual open evening is now available on their school website, click here for details [www.eckington.net/a-virtual-introduction/](http://www.eckington.net/a-virtual-introduction/)

## **Westfield School – Virtual Open Evening – Reminder**

The Westfield Year 5 and 6 open evening is taking place online. This will take place on Wednesday 30th September, 6pm – 7pm. To attend this event you need to register online in advance at

[www.westfield-chorustrust.org/joinourschool](http://www.westfield-chorustrust.org/joinourschool)