



# Weekly Family Newsletter

Monday 26th February 2024

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

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



Attendance figures for week ending 23rd February

Class	Attendance (%)
Miss Clewes	95.5
Mrs Hibberd	91.3
Mrs Thorpe	82.9
Miss White/Mrs Briggs	94.8
Miss Hughes/Mrs Bettinson	82.5
Mrs Timmons	91.6

Whole school attendance = 90.2%

**If your child is unable to attend school for any reason, please ring as early as possible on 0114 248 2360. Choose Option 2.**

## PE days

Big PE days for this half term are as follows:

**F2 = Tuesday**

**Year 1 = Thursday**

**Year 2 = Friday**

Please note that Year 1 and Year 2 have swapped days

## After-school activity clubs for Spring 2 — Football and Drama

The texts confirming whether or not your child has a place in one of these clubs went out on Saturday and the payment option is on ParentPay.

The clubs were very oversubscribed, with more than twice the number of applications for the places we have. We try to allocate places as fairly as we can, and every child does eventually get a place in a club, but we're sorry for any disappointment if your child didn't get a place this time.

## Office Opening Hours

The **main school office** is open each day from 8am - 4pm, and the phone will be answered within these hours. Outside of these hours you will have the opportunity to leave an answer phone message, which will be replied to, if necessary, when the office is next open.

If you need to contact **nursery** for any reason, then please call the school office number (including if your child will be absent). If you call the nursery number, this will automatically divert to the school office.

## Learners of the week

Congratulations to last week's Learners of the Week!

	
Marshall and Billy	Evelyn and Cooper
	
Sammy and Alfie G	Harvey and Jenson
	
Storm and Chester	Jacob and Mila

## Phonics screening parent meeting - Tuesday 12th March

We shall be holding our parent meetings about the phonics screening check on **Tuesday 12th March**. There will be two meetings for you to choose between: 2:15pm or 4:30pm. Both will be held in the school hall.

The meetings are for parents of children in year 1, as well as the parents of children in year 2 who will be re-sitting the check this year. The meeting will share with you information about the screening check, including what it is, who will be running it, and how it will affect your child. Tips for supporting your child will be shared and resources given out, along with a chance to ask questions.

## Mr Larkings

After many years of dedicated service, Mr Larkings, our caretaker, will be hanging up his keys and tools and swapping them for relaxed days and trips away in his campervan as he begins his retirement over the coming weeks. He has been the first on site in the morning and last to leave in the evening - no matter what the weather! We would like to thank him for his many years of service to the school and wish him a happy retirement.

## Parent's Evening - 19th and 20th March

Our next set of parent's evenings for children in F2, year 1 and year 2 will take place on 19th and 20th March. This is a chance for you to meet with your child's class teacher to discuss your child's learning and progress. The booking links to sign up for a slot for these meetings will be included in next week's newsletter.

## Helpful Hints from the 0-19 service at the Children's

Please find the latest issue of Helpful Hints from the 0-19 Service at Sheffield Children's via this link [https://us5.campaign-archive.com/?e= test email &u=e46c07b501bea1d9055c6a5fa&id=ad322df2a9](https://us5.campaign-archive.com/?e=test_email&u=e46c07b501bea1d9055c6a5fa&id=ad322df2a9) . This newsletter is written for parents and carers, and provides regular useful information throughout the year.

## World Book Day—reminder

This year's World Book Day takes place on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March**, and we have been busy thinking of ways to make the day fun and exciting.

### Dressing up/Pyjamas

Children are welcome to attend school on the day either dressed as their favourite character from a story (please bring the book along too with their name in), or wearing pyjamas. We kindly ask for no 'onesies' or superhero costumes as these can be difficult to get in and out of for toileting.

Throughout the day children will take part in lots of fun reading sessions, sharing stories, making puppets and much more!

### Secret Storyteller

On the day we will be holding another secret storyteller event. Children will be visited in their classroom by a different member of staff to read them a story. To make the event even more special the children will enjoy juice and biscuits whilst listening to one of our exciting new books which have been kindly donated to us by Bookmark.

The staff are really looking forward to reading with different classes again!

### Extreme Reading Competition

This year we are holding an 'Extreme Reading' competition. We are challenging the children to read in as many unusual places (or positions) as they can.

Extreme reading ideas:

- \* in a museum, art gallery, or shopping centre
- \* on a trampoline
- \* in the wardrobe
- \* on a swing
- \* with a pet/animal
- \* in the dentist's waiting room
- \* at the beach
- \* on a climbing frame (hanging upside down?!)
- \* in a tent or home-made fort
- \* in the rain (using an umbrella of course!)
- \* in the garden shed
- \* at the top of a hill
- \* halfway up the stairs!

Take a photo of your child and upload it to Tapestry with the title **Extreme Reading competition**. In addition, please encourage the children to complete a simple book review of the book they are shown reading in the photo. Review templates are attached.

The School Council will be judging the images. We shall announce the winners and prizes in the school newsletter in the week commencing 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

**We can't wait to see your fantastic entries!**

## Tablets



### Top tips



#### Talk with your child about responsible use of their tablet

Discuss what is okay and not okay to use it for and look at the possible risks. Tell your child what they should do if something goes wrong while using it. This could be to turn off the screen and tell an adult.



#### Think about the location of the tablet

Will it be in a shared family space or in a bedroom? Where will the tablet charge overnight? Think about: setting time limits; reminding your child about the risks of communicating online with people that they do not know; and encouraging them to come to you with any worries.



#### Explore parental controls

Take a look at the controls available both on the tablet itself and on your home Wi-Fi. Talk these through with your child too. Parental controls are a helpful tool, but an open conversation with your child is the most important thing.

### Useful websites:

[www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk)

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

[www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

[www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety)

# Follow the White Rabbit into our Easter Extravaganza. Join us for an enchanting Alice in Wonderland themed event.



Meet Alice and the Mad Hatter in person!



Enjoy an exciting Easter egg hunt, where every child will receive a chocolate egg.



Take part in a live animal petting experience



Enjoy our tombola stall and indulge at our delightful cake & drink stall.



Take part in our Easter Bonnet Parade and competition. Prizes for best under 5s, under 10s and under 16s.



Don't be late for this extraordinary adventure!  
Saturday 30th March on the Westfield shops.

**1.00-3.00pm**



Funded by Sheffield City Council ERF Fund and Westfield Big Local.