



Weekly Family Newsletter

Monday 14th March 2022

www.halfwaynurseryinfantschool.org

Caring, Sharing, Learning for Life.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
What's Happening this Week?	F2 Big PE Day Science Week		Y2 Big PE Day	Y1 Big PE Day	Red Nose Day
And Next Week ?	F2 Big PE Day		Y2 Big PE Day Parent consultations via ZOOM (except Gruffalo class)	Y1 Big PE Day Gruffalo Parent consultations via ZOOM	



Attendance for the week ending 11th March 2022:

Class	Attendance (%)
Mrs Jordan	98.3
Mrs Hibberd	98.3
Miss Dale	89.1
Mrs Bettinson/Mrs Briggs	93.3
Miss Hughes/ Mrs Hipkin	93.0
Mrs Timmons	91.0

Overall attendance for the week was 93.8%

Staffing

Due to unforeseen circumstances, including illness, we have some staff absence this week. We know how important consistency is for children and, whilst it may not always be possible with supply teachers etc., we will always try our best to ensure that the children continue to be supported by familiar staff wherever we can. We know what a difference a known, smiley face makes when children arrive at school each day.



Nursery News

Nursery still needs empty 1 pint washed milk cartons to use as children's watering cans please. We are currently 12 short so would be grateful for any that you are able to donate!

Children in nursery can wear red clothes on 18th March for Red Nose Day. A Red Nose Day themed competition will take place in the nursery session/s, with prizes for 2 children from each class.

Premises news

The block work is almost complete, and we are excited about the roof and windows being installed this week. Not long now until it will be watertight (luckily, the weather has been kind to the contractors so far)!

Here is a picture to show you the progress so far...



It's Science Week!

As part of Science Week this week, we are really excited that we have been offered a visit from a member of the team at the Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (AMRC) at the University of Sheffield.

As well as exploring what we are able to offer in the future in terms of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) sessions in school, she will also be leading year group assemblies with Mrs Bettinson for KS1 to talk a bit about herself and why science is an important part of her job. She will also talk to the children about the launch of a national STEM competition in schools - a "design a robot" competition which the University of Sheffield is sponsoring. The prizes for school aged children involve a robotics kit, a bespoke animation of the winning robot and a tour of the AMRC's engineering/robotics factory, in addition to prizes for runner up winners. Teachers will be busy planning classroom robotics sessions after the assemblies on Wednesday, and may send home information/activities to share with you too, where relevant.

Thank you to the AMRC team at the University of Sheffield for their time and support, and to Mrs Bettinson, our Science Curriculum Lead, for organising Science Week!

F2/KS1 Parents' Consultations before the Easter holiday

In addition to meeting your child's class teacher this term to discuss your child's progress, attainment and share their targets and next steps, we would love to incorporate an opportunity for the children to share their books with you on the day of their Parents' Consultation. Therefore, there will be an opportunity for parents/carers of KS1 children to request that their child's English/Maths books are sent home overnight to share them together at home and so you can ask staff any questions you may have about learning during your appointment with the class teacher. Our children are really proud of their books, and rightly so, and will love sharing their learning with you. Please take great care of them overnight and return them the next day :-)

We will continue to host our consultations on Zoom so it is convenient for you to join from work/home etc. rather than come back out to school in an evening. However, please speak to your child's class teacher directly should you prefer to attend the meeting you have booked via Eventbrite in person (the links to book an appointment will be sent by the end of the week).

Early evening appointments (approx. 3-6pm) will be available to book on **Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 31st March** for all classes in school, with the exception of the Gruffalo class who will have appointments available to book after school on Thursday 24th March and morning/after school appointments available on Thursday 31st March.

Milk orders for after Easter

Once children reach the age of 5, they are no longer entitled to free school milk unless they receive **income-related** free school meals (whilst all infant aged children are entitled to **Universal Free School Meals**, only children eligible for **income-related** free school meals are able to claim free milk).

If you think your child may be entitled to **income-related** free school meals, but is not currently in receipt of them, please go to <https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/schoolmeals>. Applying is easy, and there are lots of benefits such as food vouchers over the holidays.

- **For children who are already 5**—the cost of milk for the Summer Term (Easter to the Summer holiday) is £9.76. You have received a text message with a link to a form to complete to let us know whether your child would like milk next term or not. Once you have submitted the form you can click on the link to pay (if your child is not entitled to **income-related** free school meals).
- **If your child will become 5 during the Summer Term (Easter to July)** - you will have received a letter with instructions for paying for milk after their 5th birthday if they want milk after this date.
- **If your child does not turn 5 until after school finishes for the Summer** - you don't need to do anything: your child will continue to receive their free milk.
- **For children who are entitled to income-related free school meals** - you don't need to do anything: your child will continue to receive their free milk.

If you have any questions, please speak to Mrs Tatham in the School Office on 0114 2482360

Lunchtime News

In the 'Eat them to defeat them' challenge, our vegetable/theme for this week is... 'Goodbye Broccoli!'



Wear red to support Red Nose Day - this Friday, 18th March

For Red Nose Day 2022, the School Councillors have met and have decided they would like children in school and nursery to wear red clothes this Friday, 18th March, and they are busy organising a Red Nose Day themed competition that will take place in the school day, presenting prizes to 2 children from each class.

Voluntary contributions of £1, or whatever you feel able to give, can be donated online at <https://www.justgiving.com/HNISRedNoseDay2022>

Pyjama Day

Through your generous donations, the school raised £199 for the Children's Hospital Pyjama Day appeal. Well done and many thanks!! Attached is a 'thank you' letter from the Children's Hospital Charity.



Pretty Muddy Race For Life Appeal

A former pupil at our school, Harley Jo, is taking part in this year's Pretty Muddy Race For Life to raise funds for cancer research. This is something that is very close to the family's hearts after Harley Jo sadly lost her aunt to cancer a few weeks ago at the age of 25. Harley Jo, therefore, wants to raise as much money as she can for this cause and the family have asked us to put this in our newsletter.

If you would like to make a donation, you can do so at:

https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/harleys-race-for-life-5906?feed=0465dc39-d74e-412b-b143-be59b93e506b&fbclid=IwAR1E7UcPmn3TaoTsVYOpuJaiH66DjpFlwJJeUCt1_trwzNGKkcoiYIYMoYg

Covid-19 advice

Please be aware that we have a small number of cases of Covid-19 in school at present, mostly affecting F2 and Y1 classes. If your child is feeling unwell please keep them at home. If they are showing one of the symptoms of Covid-19, please follow the Government advice (below) by booking a PCR test for them as these are still available to book on the NHS website, including at the Halfway Testing Centre. Thank you for your support to help keep our school community safe and well where we can.

Some of the main messages from the most up to date guidance are:

- nationally, education and childcare settings are open, and attendance is mandatory for schools
- the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health has made it clear that the overwhelming majority of children and young people still have no symptoms or very mild illness only;
- updates have been made to tracing close contacts and isolation guidance to reflect new public health guidance (see below);
- update to the testing section to reflect that twice weekly testing in mainstream schools is no longer advised;
- if the number of positive cases substantially increases in our nursery or school (or if a nursery, school, or college is in an enhanced response area) we might be advised that additional measures should be introduced;
- all children aged 12 and over are now eligible for COVID-19 vaccinations;
- the guidance states that 'children and young people previously considered CEV should attend school and should follow the same COVID-19 guidance as the rest of the population';
- face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors in classrooms and communal areas;
- education recovery programmes will continue to be delivered.

If you would like to read the full guidance that has been updated for parents/carers, you can find this at -

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=a735646b-1b59-4f49-8e2a-37242068576c&utm_content=daily

Changes to self-isolation and daily testing of close contacts

'Contacts' are no longer required to self-isolate by the government or advised to take daily tests. Staff, children and young people should attend their education settings as usual should they be a contact.

Whilst the Government have removed the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test, adults and children who test positive are advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days, and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days. Our staff will be following this advice as they will not be attending school/nursery should they test positive to protect the children/staff. Thank you for continuing to follow the current advice to help us to do this.

Kind regards,

Paula Bestall

The Children's Hospital Charity

Registered Charity No. 505002

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SHEFFIELD
S20 3GU

Our Ref: 50969

10/03/2022

Dear Halfway Nursery Infant School,

Thank you for raising money for Sheffield Children's by taking part in Team Theo's Pyjama Day. We hope you enjoyed wearing your pyjamas for the day!



I am pleased to confirm that you have raised a fantastic £199.00 for The Children's Hospital Charity!

Sheffield Children's prides itself on delivering world-class care for thousands of children every week, and your support will help us to redevelop the environment they are treated in.

The money you've raised will help where it is most needed and also allow us to focus on the 'Build it Better' appeal; after reaching our target for our new Ward 6 in 2021, we will be looking to our next challenge of creating a Helipad and a new Emergency Department. Your support will help to ensure that the ongoing needs of our hospital continue to be met today, tomorrow and beyond.

On behalf of our staff, patients, and their families - thank you for taking part and making a huge difference!

Yours sincerely,

Lucy Cain
Community Fundraising Officer

