



Weekly Family Newsletter

Monday 28th March 2022

www.halfwaynurseryinfantschool.org

Caring, Sharing, Learning for Life.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
What's Happening this Week?	F2 Big PE Day		Special Easter Lunch— children can wear an Easter hat/headwear if they would like to. Y2 Big PE Day	Y1 Big PE Day Parent consultations via ZOOM	Last day—school closed next week
And Next Week ?	School closed	School closed	School closed	School closed	School closed



Attendance for the week ending 25th March 2022:

Class	Attendance (%)
Mrs Jordan	97.0
Mrs Hibberd	94.4
Miss Dale	96.4
Mrs Bettinson/Mrs Briggs	90.0
Miss Hughes/ Mrs Hipkin	93.5
Mrs Timmons	94.1

Overall attendance for the week was 94.2%

Sad news

As you may be aware, Miss Hughes has not been at school for the past couple of weeks and she has asked me to share the reason with you; I am sorry to inform you that Miss Hughes's wonderful mum, Sylvia, has sadly passed away after a short and sudden illness. Our thoughts and love go out to Miss Hughes and her family at this time.

I know that many parents/carers also knew Sylvia and loved having her as a teacher, as she devoted her teaching career to Halfway Nursery Infant School. If you are affected by this sad news, please do not hesitate to come and see me.

Thank you to the parents/carers in The Gruffalo class and to F2 staff for your understanding and support — where we can, we will continue to ensure as much consistency as possible for your children until Miss Hughes returns, with Mrs Campbell teaching The Gruffalos at the beginning of each week and Mrs Hipkin at the end of each week.

After School Activity Clubs, Summer 1 (After Easter)

Unfortunately, the Y2 multi-skills club for this half-term has not taken place due to staff absence. We know that the children who had been offered a place must have been disappointed, so we have decided to offer the club again after the Easter holidays (in Summer 1 half term) to the children who were meant to take part this time. If any of the Y2s who had a place allocated do not wish to attend in Summer Term 1, please just let us know so we can refund you and offer the place to the other Y2 children. Y1s will be offered the opportunity to do **Encanto Song and Dance** with Jess Fulton in Summer Term 1, with multi-skills now planned for Y1 in Summer Term 2.

Premises update

All systems go again on the building site today, and we are delighted to say that we now have WINDOWS fitted to our new block! The floor was levelled last week and the contractors will be busy finishing the roof and guttering etc. this week to make the building water tight before the internal works start.



'Bump notes' - soon to be sent by email!

(First aid incidents and medication administration notifications etc.)

As you know, we try very hard to keep parents/carers informed about first aid incidents via paper 'bump notes' and our robust measures to record medication administration at school are also currently paper-based. We are increasingly aware of the substantial cost, time and environmental impact associated with the amount of paper and photocopying involved with this, and are, therefore, updating our school systems to email-based alternatives. We want to make sure that our record keeping is as robust as ever whilst making notifications reliable and easy for parents/carers to access.

To help make improvements in these areas we have decided to use a service called Medical Tracker. Medical Tracker is a system that some schools use that not only allows us to inform parents/carers of first aid incidents and medication administration by email (at the point it is recorded in school), but it also allows us to analyse the data we record.

Medical Tracker will be beneficial to you because:

- We can record and track first aid incidents that involve your child;
- We can record and track medication administration that involves your child;
- You can be notified immediately after a first aid incident by email;
- You can be notified immediately after medication has been administered by email.

Important – When we start using Medical Tracker, all 'bump notes' will be sent to the email address that we have on record for your child. Shortly, we will be asking you to confirm that email address; please look out for the message and make sure we have the correct address.

Emailed bump notes and medication administration notifications will be sent from donotreply@medicaltracker.co.uk. Please add this address to your email address books (or approved sender list) to prevent messages from being blocked by your SPAM/JUNK filters.

Please be assured that Medical Tracker is registered with the Data Protection Registrar and guarantees that all information you provide will be kept private and will not be passed on to any other organisation.

If you have any concerns about your child's data being shared with Medical Tracker and used for this purpose, please contact us by 9am on Wednesday 30 March as this system will be set up by the end of the week, ready to go live after Easter.

Covid-19 update

Please be aware that we have a small number of cases of Covid-19 in all year groups. 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 by booking a PCR test for them—these are still available to book on the NHS website. Thank you for your support to help keep our school community safe and well where we can.

Free Food Vouchers For Easter 2022

The Government has provided a Household Support Grant to assist with food and energy costs over the winter period. Sheffield City Council recognises that many families continue to face financial difficulties because of the pandemic, changes to Universal Credit, and rising costs for food and energy.

Please Note: The national grant funding to support the free food voucher scheme initiative is due to end after Easter and there are currently no national plans to continue this support after the Easter holiday. The Council will continue to ask the Government for further support as it understands how important this scheme has been to so many families and children across our city.

A £30 food voucher will be sent to the following groups to help over the Easter holiday:

- Families who claim income based Free School Meals (FSM);
- Families who get income assessed Early Years Support (2–4-Year-Olds);
- Young people leaving their care setting (Care Leavers).

The Plan

The Council has chosen to continue to use Edenred as the supplier of the vouchers as schools and parent/carers are familiar with the two-step process involved in downloading the vouchers.

The voucher letters have now been sent to parents/carers. The letter includes the website link for Edenred and clear instructions on how to download the voucher. You can get in touch with school in the first instance if you need help downloading or printing your voucher/s and the letter will also provide you with the contact details for Edenred, should you have any further issues (or issues out of term time).

Any child/young person that becomes eligible for a food voucher between 11th March 2022 and 3rd April 2022 will be sent a voucher letter in w/c 11th April 2022.

The Process

As before, parents/carers need to go to the following website to redeem Easter vouchers - www.selectyourcompliment.co.uk/grocery. Enter the unique 16-digit e-Code and select the chosen supermarket. Edenred give a choice of 10 supermarkets: Aldi, Tesco, Asda, Sainsbury's, Waitrose, M&S, McColl's, Company Shop, Iceland and Farmfoods. Parents/carers are able to download their vouchers for more than one supermarket, for example, £10 for Aldi and £5 for Asda.

The downloaded E-Gift Card/Voucher will arrive by email within 24 hours. If you cannot find this, please check your Junk/Spam folder. Please note that codes need to be activated within 3 months or they will be cancelled. Once you have claimed your voucher on the Edenred website the voucher will be valid for 12 months.

The council has again produced a short 'How to...' video for parents/carers - <https://youtu.be/OJLMY8WqMgq>

Where can families get further help?

The Free School Meals (FSM) voucher helpline will be available on 0114 2734567, option 4, option 3, and can offer help to parents/carers experiencing difficulties with their e-Codes or with general FSM enquiries.

Parents/carers can also contact Edenred directly with an enquiry about an eCode or voucher at freeschoolmealsparentscarers@edenred.com or telephone 0333 400 5932.

If you have any concerns about the plans for the Easter food vouchers, or would like to discuss the arrangements for your school further, please don't hesitate to get in touch at schoolfood@sheffield.gov.uk

If any of our parents/carers are facing financial hardship there is free advice and support available at www.citizensadvice.org.uk or call on 0808 278 7820. You can also find further information about support at:

www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/your-city-council/coronavirus-hub/support-for-people

Change To Cost Of Milk

We are very sorry to have to inform you that we have just been told by Sheffield City Council that the cost of children's milk for next term will rise from 16p to 18p per carton. This means that the cost for milk for the term is now £10.98, and we will have to ask anyone wanting milk for their child to pay the difference.

If you have ordered, and paid for, milk for the Summer term, please look out for a texted form, giving you the option either to pay the extra £1.22, or to cancel your child's milk.

If you have ordered, but have not paid for, milk for the Summer term, please wait until the Easter holiday when you will have the option to pay the new price.

Those children who become 5 years old during the Summer term will receive a letter giving details of the additional payment they will need to make if they want to have milk throughout the term.

Eat Smart Sheffield Newsletter

FREE Webinar for Parents/Carers – '10 Top Tips for a Healthier Family'



Wednesday 27th April 2022 8pm – 9pm

Do you struggle to get your 5-a-day?

Are you looking for quick & easy ways to improve your diet?

Do you want some advice on how to keep your family healthy?

Then why not join us for this **FREE** online webinar for our 10TopTips for a Healthier Family!

Part of the Eat Smart Sheffield '10TopTips Webinar Series', this session includes advice on how to keep you and your family healthy including simple swaps, portion control, making the most of mealtimes, and how to deal with fussy eating.

Presented via Zoom and delivered by nutrition professionals, the session will be informative but fun, with time throughout to answer any of your questions.

[BOOK HERE](#)

For more information, please contact lisa.aldwin@learnsheffield.co.uk

Veg Power—Eat Them To Defeat Them

We've squished those tomatoes, now it's time to defeat those peas!



What is coming up in school before the Easter holiday?

F2/KS1 Parent/Carer Consultations

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 already booked via Eventbrite in person. Zoom links will be sent out to you before your appointment.

Early evening appointments are available on **Thursday 31st March** for all classes in school.

Nursery News

We are looking forward to greeting our new starters when they join nursery after the Easter holidays. We have nursery places available from September 2022 (both 15 and 30 hour FEL), so please spread the word and tell their friends and family!.

We would be very grateful for donations of **age appropriate** children's comics and magazines.

Easter Activities

We have a lovely week planned at school this week with springtime and Easter activities linked to learning, including our annual Easter egg hunts! All the eggs for the hunt have been kindly donated by The Friends of Halfway Nursery Infant School Group, bought with the proceeds of the fund-raising activities at Christmas (design your own Christmas cards, and the school tea towels/coasters).

We also have a special Easter themed menu this Wednesday (attached—courtesy of our catering company for school meals, Taylor Shaw), and children are welcome to bring an Easter hat/bonnet/headband/bunny ears etc. to wear for lunch on this day if they have any at home. Please do not buy anything special for this day as this is optional, or you could make your own bunny ears etc. to attach onto a headband or cap/hat!

Egg Decorating Competition

The Friends of Halfway Nursery Infant School Group is organising an egg decorating competition for the children!

Over the Easter holiday you can decorate an egg at home in any way you wish, be as creative as you can, and then post a photo of your creation onto Tapestry by **9am on Tuesday 19 April**. The School Council will judge the entries and the winners will win a special Easter treat!

The competition is free to enter and all prizes will be provided from the proceeds of our Christmas fund-raising activities.

Friends of Halfway Nursery Infant School

Egg Decorating Competition



Eggs can be decorated however you like! Entries should be posted on Tapestry by:

9am on **TUESDAY 19th APRIL**

The School Councillors will then pick the winners!



We hope you all have a lovely break this Easter. Please remember that the last day the children are in school before the Easter holiday is Friday 1 April, and the children return on Tuesday 19 April.

Kindest regards,

Paula Bestall

**EASTER
EXTRAVAGANZA**



Join me
on the hunt
for some lovely
**Easter
treats**



EASTER LUNCH MENU

WEDNESDAY 30TH MARCH

**ROAST CHICKEN OR
QUORN ROAST**

**WITH YORKSHIRE PUDDING.
STUFFING. ROAST POTATOES.
PEAS & CARROTS**

CRISPY EASTER NEST