



# Weekly Family Newsletter

Monday 21st March 2022

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

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

|                             | Monday        | Tuesday | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------|--|---|--------|
| What's Happening this Week? | F2 Big PE Day |         | Y2 Big PE Day<br>Parent consultations via ZOOM (except Gruffalo class)                                     | Y1 Big PE Day<br>Gruffalo Parent consultations via ZOOM |        |
| And Next Week ?             | F2 Big PE Day |         | Special Easter Lunch— children can wear an Easter hat/headwear if they would like to.<br><br>Y2 Big PE Day | Y1 Big PE Day<br>Parent consultations via ZOOM          |        |



Attendance for the week ending 18th March 2022:

| Class                      | Attendance (%) |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| Mrs Jordan                 | 98.3           |
| Mrs Hibberd                | 97.2           |
| Miss Dale                  | 90.0           |
| Mrs Bettinson/Mrs Briggs   | 82.0           |
| Miss Hughes/<br>Mrs Hipkin | 91.4           |
| Mrs Timmons                | 92.4           |

Overall attendance for the week was 92.0%

## New Governors

We are so pleased to be able to welcome to our Governing Board two new parent/carer governors, **Mey Brookes** and **Catherine Best**.

Mey and Catherine received the highest number of votes in the recent parent/carer governor election.

Many thanks to all those who put their names forward for the vacancies, and who registered their votes. We are very fortunate to work with such supportive parent/carers :-)



## 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, including at the Halfway Testing Centre. Thank you for your support to help keep our school community safe and well where we can.

## Premises update

The roof of the new entrance/toilet/office block is now boarded ready for roof insulation to commence this week, followed by floor levelling/floor screeding towards the end of the week. The windows arrived on site last week and are due to be fitted next week too, so it is all go!

The project is going well and is on schedule to be completed around the May/June half term holiday :-)



## Comic Relief

Thanks to your kind donations, we raised £193 for Comic Relief. Well done, everyone! The children looked great on Friday in their Red Nose Day outfits and had a super day raising money to help others. See overleaf for our competition winners...

View your page

View gallery

Change cover

**£193**  
raised  
by 33 supporters

**Give Now**

Share

Paula Bestall  
**HNIS's Red Nose Day**  
Fundraising for Comic Relief

**COMIC RELIEF**

**Red Nose Day 2022 - Schools**  
run by Comic Relief  
Red Nose Day is back on Friday 18 March 2022. And this year it's all about you. Yes, you! Whether you donate to dress up, pay to eat cake or take on a sponsored challenge, you'll be helping people live free from poverty, violence and discrimination.

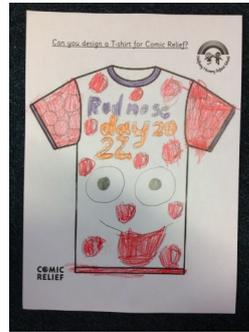
Charity Registration No. 326568

# T Shirt for Comic Relief Winners

Congratulations to all of our Red Nose Day competition winners! What fantastic T-shirt designs they produced! Well done to everyone for taking part.

Here are the winning designs:

**Year 2—Mrs Jordan's class**



**Year 2—Mrs Hibberd's class**

**Year 1—Miss Dale's class**



**Year 1—Mrs Briggs's/Mrs Bettinson's class**



**Reception—Miss Hughes's/Mrs Hipkin's class**



**Reception—Mrs Timmons's class**



**Nursery**



## 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 (approx. 3-6pm) are available 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.

### Eat Them To Defeat Them

We've said good-bye to broccoli, now let's taste some tomatoes!



### Easter Activities

We have a lovely week planned at school next week (and, hopefully, the weather will stay as beautiful!) 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 next Wednesday (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!

**Please remember that the last day the children are in school before the Easter holiday is Friday 1 April. The children return on Tuesday 19 April.**

### 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.

## **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 will be sent out to parents by second class post this week. The letter will include 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/your-city-council/coronavirus-hub/support-for-people)

## **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

## **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.

Kind regards,

Paula Bestall