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Halfpenny Lane Junior, Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter

Friday 15th December 2017,

As I think about all the wonderful things that have happened during my first term at Halfpenny Lane, I feel very fortunate to work with such wonderful children and staff. Each day, children have been kind, respectful and resilient and I am excited to go forward into 2018 with this same passion for learning. Thank you to all the children, staff and parents who have supported me this term and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! I look forward to seeing you back in school on Wednesday 3rd January 2018!

Christmas Fayre

I am delighted to announce that you raised £1224.76 for school funds at the Christmas Fayre. Many thanks for all your donations that made this possible.

Christingle Services at St Giles

On Monday, the school visited St Giles to participate in their Christmas Christingle services. The children walked down to the church very sensibly and enjoyed taking part. Father Bob was impressed with their singing and he is already looking forward to next year's services! Thanks to Father Bob and to all the parents who came to watch, particularly those who helped to walk the children down.

Halfpenny Lane Choir – Light up a Life event

On Monday evening, the Choir performed at St Giles Church as part of the Prince of Wales Hospice 'Light up a life' service. The choir sang amazingly well and all the adults and myself were so proud of every one of them! Thank you to Mrs Daley and Miss Umpleby for supporting the children and thank you to Mrs McGown for the support in the practices at school.

Christmas Dinner Day

Thanks to all the kitchen staff who worked extra hard on Tuesday to make our Christmas dinner a real success. I'd also like to thank Mrs Appleton and all the midday supervisors for their hard work and dedication ensuring all the children are supported over the lunch break – not just at Christmas but throughout the whole year!

Year 6 Singing at the Prince of Wales Hospice

On Tuesday, some Year 6 children went to the Prince of Wales hospice to sing Christmas songs and carols. It was heart-warming to see the children's singing put a smile on the faces of those who are not well. Thank you to Miss Keith, Mr O'Toole and Miss Robinson for organising this event.

Halfpenny Nativity Performances

I have had the pleasure of watching all the nativity performances for Nursery, Reception and KS1. I think you will agree with me when I say how incredible they all were! The children and adults have worked very hard to produce such fantastic nativity plays, which they will look back on with fond memories in years to come.

Carols around the Christmas tree

Unfortunately, due to the weather, it was carols around the tree – in the hall rather than the playground! Despite this, the children really enjoyed themselves and it was lovely to see so many of you attend. I would like to thank all the staff who helped during the events and Mr Kirkland who kept the school open later for us.

Key Dates

Tues 2nd Jan – Inset Day

Weds 3rd Jan – Return to school

Fri 9th Feb – Break up for half term

Mon 19th Feb – Return to school

Halfpenny Staffing

Joining us in January are Mrs Evans, our new pastoral learning mentor, and Miss Hewes, our new upper KS2 Intervention teacher. I would like to welcome them both and am sure they will soon feel part of the Halfpenny team!

Attendance

Attendance really matters! If a child is not in school then they are missing out on important learning opportunities. **Our aim is to have a whole class attendance of above 96%.** If your child is ill and unable to attend school, please ensure you inform the office. Minor ailments can be managed in school with the support of the school nurse.

Our weekly attendance is:

Class	Attendance %	Class	Attendance %
RBM	89.55	4D	94.48
RW	95.50	4M	96.33
1C	92.41	5A	92.86
1OB	96.18	5W	96.19
2B	96.21	6L	93.43
2G	97.86	6OT	89.97
3S	92.86	Whole School total	94.51
3W	97.32	Cumulative total	94.75

Well done to all of those children who were here every day!



Celebration



Each and every lesson our children wow us! They work so hard and demonstrate the best attitude to their learning. However, some catch the eye of their teachers and have been chosen for the pupil of the week award! Well done to the children chosen in the grid below!

Class	Child of the week!
RBM	Jesse Myhill
RW	Spencer Roles
1C	Freya Nicholson
1OB	Bella Skidmore-Ward
2B	William Roebuck
2G	Joe Brown
3S	Aaron Brook
3W	Jenson Jewitt
4D	Alfie Jones
4M	Chloe Watkiss
5A	Joe Broom
5W	Lily Bird
6L	Ben Gombkoto
6OT	Imogen Stoddart

Merry Christmas and thank you for your continued support! We look forward to seeing you in 2018!

Mr James Parkinson – Head of School