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Halfpenny Lane Junior, Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter

Friday 23rd February 2018

I hope you all enjoyed your half term break, the children have started back with a lovely positive attitude. I have visited different classes this week and it has been a pleasure to see the children engaged in their learning.

World Book Day

Thursday 1st March is World Book Day. Each year group will be planning exciting activities based around a book and author. I am looking forward to seeing all the different fancy dress book characters. We will be joined by two local authors, who will lead our main school assembly, and then work with the children throughout the day. After school, we will be holding our first Book Swap Café in the hall. This will be an opportunity for parents and carers to come into school with their children and enjoy reading a book together. Thank you to all the children who have already brought books in, you will soon receive your ticket so that you can swap them for new ones; there is still time to bring in books. Or simply come into school to enjoy a drink and read your child's current school book. You will also have an opportunity to meet the two authors who will be selling signed copies of their books, so please come in and meet them. All children are welcome!

Year 2 Thackray Museum Trip

Today, Year 2 have visited the Thackray Museum as part of their curriculum topic "The Human Body". The children have been really looking forward to the trip and I can't wait to hear all about it. I would like to thank Mrs Barrick and the Year 2 team for organising this.

Parking around Halfpenny Lane

As you may have noticed, Mr Ayre, Mrs Gawthorp and I have been monitoring the parking situation on Halfpenny Lane on a morning. Please can I ask all parents to help us keep our children safe, by parking in an appropriate place and not causing congestion by double parking or parking in front of other residents' properties. I have found that many parents who walk to school with young children in pushchairs struggle to cross the road due to inconsiderate parking. Please also refrain from parking in the staff car park and on the school service road.

Parents Evening

A date for your diary – our next parent consultation evenings for Reception through to Year 5 will take place on Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st March. More information will follow shortly.

Social Media

The internet is a powerful tool to connect people and share ideas and opinions. In recent years, social media platforms such as Facebook have grown in popularity as many people use them to communicate with family and friends. Most people who use social media show respect in the communication with others and are positive "digital role models" for children. However, like all aspects of society, sadly there are people who disregard the rules and will use this faceless platform inappropriately and maliciously to criticise or make unsubstantiated comments.

Key Dates

Thur 1st Mar – World Book Day
Tue 20th Mar – Parents Evening
Wed 21st Mar – Parents Evening
Wed 28th Mar – Break up for Easter
Thur 29th Mar – Inset Day
Mon 16th April – Return to school
Thur 3rd May – Nursery Closed
Mon 7th May – KS1 SATs throughout week
Mon 14th May – KS2 SATs
Mon 21st May – KS1 SATs throughout week
Mon 21st May – Class group photos
Fri 25th May – Wear Blue non-uniform day
Fri 25th May – Last day at school
Mon 4th June – Inset Day
Tuesday 5th June – Return to school

At Halfpenny Lane, we encourage you to support us with the education and wellbeing of your children. We endeavour to keep you well informed and involve you in school life. The staff here are approachable, respectful and work hard for your children. They strive to foster and maintain positive home school relationships. When they arise, we take your concerns seriously and do our best to address these effectively and in a timely manner. No matter how insignificant you may consider a negative comment to be, others may interpret them differently. Disparaging comments about the school can be hugely discouraging for staff and children, they have longevity, have a potentially massive audience, can encourage those who do not even know the school to comment, and worst of all do not allow us the right to reply. If you feel that something has been mishandled in school then please do come and speak to us about it. I would ask that you do not use Facebook to air a grievance. As a community, we should frown upon the use of social media to make disparaging comments about our school and the staff who work in it. Instead, we should aim to be positive digital role models for our children.

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	95.38	4D	88.03
RW	98.75	4M	93.31
1C	92.67	5A	97.32
1OB	96.12	5W	87.50
2B	99.17	6L	95.67
2G	95.00	6OT	96.97
3S	92.41	Whole School total	94.60
3W	95.83	Cumulative total	95.06

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	Erin Barratt
RW	Alex Williams
1C	Sammy Wain
1OB	Jake Harrington
2B	Elliot Jones
2G	Bella Haigh
3S	Ryan Myhill
3W	Sam Considine
4D	Riley Tinnion
4M	Jenson Boucher
5A	John Brooks
5W	Bethany Twist
6L	Bailey Hemsworth
6OT	Tia Haimes

Thank you for your continued support!

Mr James Parkinson – Head of School