



Head of School: Mr James Parkinson  
Assistant Headteachers: Mrs Kate Gawthorp & Miss Lauren Whitehead  
Chair of Governors: Mr Tim Craven

Address: Halfpenny Lane, Pontefract, WF8 4BW  
Phone: 01977 703270  
Email address: [admin@halfpenny.patrust.org.uk](mailto:admin@halfpenny.patrust.org.uk)  
[www.halfpenny.patrust.org.uk](http://www.halfpenny.patrust.org.uk)

# Halfpenny Lane Junior, Infant and Nursery School

## Newsletter

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

I have been so proud of the children in school this week. With so many distractions around us, they have continued to demonstrate the values and principles that we drive as a school and Trust. The children's learning attitude, behaviour and resilience has been extraordinary!

### School Closure

As announced by the Government earlier this week, after today, school will be closing for all of our children except for those whose parents have been identified as a key worker. This is an unprecedented time and certainly not one I have experienced in my career before. By the end of today, you should have received your home learning packs, including a sheet with online resources. Please follow the guidance provided so that the children learn from home and continue to make progress.

### Well-being and Keeping safe

Throughout the week, our teachers have been leading lessons on well-being and keeping safe, whether it is online or at home. Please can I ask that you continue to speak with your child to ensure they do not carry any worries or concerns. Also, please reinforce the fundamentals of keeping safe online:

- Children should only access websites/games that are age appropriate
- They should not speak to any person they do not know
- Children should not sign up or register to any game/website without the knowledge of parents
- If anything appears on the screen that your child is unsure about, they should show it to a parent immediately
- Be respectful and kind if playing with other children online

Thank you for your support with this.

### Attendance and Celebration Awards

As a school, we have not held any assemblies this week as we are trying to reduce non-essential gatherings. Because of this, we have not chosen our weekly celebration awards or attendance awards. I'd like to state again, how all the children have been impeccable with their attitude to work and general behaviour – well done children!

Thank you to all the parents and carers who have supported the children and school throughout the year so far. There has been so many things to celebrate and it is clear to see how the pupils have grown and developed throughout the year. From the introduction of our new curriculum, reading strategy and continued high expectations over behaviour, uniform and attendance – the children have continually demonstrated the ethos of Halfpenny Lane. The learning partnership between parents and school is critical in the development of our children and I look forward to this continuing in the future.

During the last week, we have entered a different time, but I'd like to thank all the parents for their kind emails, chats on the playground and general support you have shown. They have certainly made us feel valued and supported! I look forward to seeing all the children back in school in the future.

Mr James Parkinson – Head of School