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Halfpenny Lane Junior, Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter

Friday 19th June 2020

I hope everyone is keeping well and staying safe! It was a pleasure to welcome back some of the nursery children this week and I have enjoyed standing at the door of different social groups to see what great things have been taking place. As the weather improves over the weekend I hope that you are able to enjoy the sunshine outside.

Online Home Learning

I hope you have enjoyed the learning resources this week. I appreciate the positive feedback I have received from parents and I'm glad you agree that this more structured approach will support the children who are yet to return to school. I hope by now you have been able to access the Dojo and Padlet software and I know that all of our teachers are excited to catch up with their pupils via our weekly team meetings. Please see the weekly work diary to access the video links and to see what work is expected to be completed each day.

Please can I remind all parents that communication from teachers via Dojo will be limited and will only respond to work submitted through this channel. If you have any concerns, questions or require support, I ask you to contact school via the school admin team at admin@halfpenny.patrust.org.uk

Information for Pupils Attending School

I would like to thank all the pupils and parents who respectfully follow our school systems that are in place throughout this period of time. I realise that having one-way systems and staggered start/finish times to the day is not an ideal scenario for many parents. However, I know you understand the importance of ensuring we keep all of our children, staff and parents safe whilst on school grounds. Please can I encourage parents who come onto school grounds to ensure they follow the social distancing measures and if you have any queries or questions – please do not hesitate in calling or emailing our school admin team. Just to remind you of our start/end times:

- Key worker/other selected children: 8:30am – 3:15pm
- Nursery: 9am – 11:30am / 12:30pm – 3pm
- EYFS: 9:30am – 2:30pm
- Year 1: 9am – 2pm
- Year 6: 10am – 3pm

National Sports Week

How do you fancy challenging friends, family or neighbours to some fun, virtual sporting activities this summer? The Youth Sport Trust are determined to ensure that young people stay active and connected through this difficult time. They've been helping families do this with daily #StayHomeStayActive activities since March and now they're challenging the public to go one step further by joining them in the first ever National School Sport Week at Home, supercharged by Sky Sports. Taking place from 20-26 June, the week will give families, communities, schools and sports clubs the opportunity to take part in a series of virtual sporting challenges which help young people capture the enjoyment, competition and camaraderie they may be missing out on and the Youth Sport Trust is delighted that Sky Sports will be helping to supercharge the campaign. To find out more, please visit their website: www.youthsporttrust.org/nss where, after a free registration, the children will have access to many different activities to enjoy.

Year 6 Transition

As I mentioned in last week's newsletter, our Trust secondary schools have created a 'Year 6 Transition' page on their websites. These videos will give our pupils who are moving up to these secondary schools a flavour of the school day and

many other aspects of secondary life. I realise that this year, our transition opportunities are limited however I hope that these videos will support our Year 6 pupils as they approach the conclusion of their time at Halfpenny Lane.

Thank you.

Mr James Parkinson
Head of School

This Week at Halfpenny

Reception - we have been reading stories all about space including 'The Dinosaur That Pooped a Planet' and 'Aliens Love Underpants'. The children designed and described their own dinosaur. They also designed their own underpants!

Year 1 - children have been working hard and enjoying writing instructions on how to make the most disgusting sandwich!

Year 6 - we have really enjoyed our first full week with the children. In English, we have been using Harry Potter as a stimulus for our newspaper report writing. In Maths, we have been recapping our knowledge of algebra - substituting numbers and letters, forming expressions and solving equations. We have been learning about evolution and inheritance in Science, examining the role of DNA and chromosomes and looking at inherited and acquired characteristics.

