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Halfpenny Lane Junior, Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter

Friday 11th December 2020

Headteacher Update

It has been a great week at Halfpenny Lane. The children are working hard trying their best. The excitement for Christmas is definitely building in school. I look forward to spending my final week in Halfpenny Lane celebrating as much as we can whilst remaining safe and socially distanced.

10th December MNDA Non-uniform Day

Thank you for everyone's generous donations towards the non-uniform day on Thursday. You have raised £474.60, which is a fantastic amount! We are happy to support such a worthy cause as the Motor Neurone Disease Association with the great work they do.

Christmas Jumper Day

It has been fantastic to see so many different Christmas jumpers today. So many bright/sparkly/humorous jumpers! It has definitely made me feel even more Christmassy! With your donations for this, we were able to raise £434.60 for the Save the Children charity. This is such a worthy cause, which supports children across the world – thank you.

Staffing

As you will know, I leave Halfpenny at the end of next week to become Headteacher of De Lacy. Mr Tom Fay, who is the Trust's Director of Primary Education will lead the school alongside the current leadership team, until a substantive Headteacher is recruited. Also, Mrs Poynton who was due to leave in January on Maternity has left earlier than planned. Mrs Ridler has been fantastic in bridging the gap, but from January, I am pleased to inform you that Miss Halliday will be the new Year 3 teacher. Miss Halliday has experience in teaching in many different countries and I know she is excited to meet our wonderful children.



Pontefract Christmas Window Competition

Today, two children from 5H have represented Halfpenny Lane as they have taken part in the Christmas shop window competition. The children represented our school fantastically and enjoyed judging the fantastic displays around the centre of Pontefract. If you haven't seen them, please take a walk into town to see them for yourselves.

Halfpenny Santa Dash

On Monday 14th December the whole school will be taking part in a Cross-Country Santa Dash. This will give our children a great opportunity to better their scores from the first cross country event, earlier this year. For the event, KS2 will complete 6 laps of the 200 metre circuit, totalling 1200 metres whereas KS1 will complete 4 laps of the circuit totalling 800 metres. As children now arrive at school already wearing their PE kits on their selected PE days, we recommend that children do the same on Monday 14th December. However, as the field may well be a little damp, we strongly recommend that children do not wear brand new or expensive trainers to complete this event and to bring some spare trainers or their school shoes to change into if their trainers get a little wet. Also, if the children have a Santa hat or reindeer headband, we would love to see them run in them! If you would like to make a donation of tinned or dry foods, such as pasta, all the food will be donated to the food bank. Please hand your food donations to your child's class Teacher. Thank you.

Inset Day

Please remember, Friday 18th December is an inset day, so pupils break up on Thursday 17th December returning on Monday 4th January.

Light up a Life

Usually, our school choir perform at the Prince of Wales Hospice, Light up a Life service. This is a special service for families to remember loved ones who may have passed away throughout the year. Because of the current climate, unfortunately we weren't able to do anything live – however, we have recorded our Year 6's performing a favourite Christmas song. You can watch them perform the song by following the link: www.pwh.org.uk/light our song is at around 13minutes within the video.

Twitter

Don't forget, you can keep up to date with all your child/children's learning by following us on Twitter @halfpennylane. On a weekly basis, each class upload various pictures of what is happening in their lessons. Please follow us and see what's happening in school!



We ask that your child does not come to school if they display one or more of the following symptoms:

- A persistent dry cough
- A raised prolonged temperature
- Your child loses their sense of taste and smell.

If you or one of your household are symptomatic and is currently waiting for the outcome of a test – your whole household must isolate until there is a negative outcome.



Celebration



In every single 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 this week!

Class	Child of the week!	Class	Child of the week!
RB	Ethan B	3P	Esme W
RBM	Kenley G	4A	Skye D
1T	Kitty W	4W	Mia R
1W	Harper C	5H	Charley G
2S	Phoebe A	5W	Louie D
2W	Isla B	6D	Emme C
3G	Millie M	6W	Thomas C

Attendance matters! Thank you to all the children who have come to school everyday so far this year!

Class	Attendance %	Class	Attendance %
RB	99.86	4A	98.65
RBM	100.00	4W	98.67
1T	95.95	5H	98.86
1W	93.00	5W	95.67
2S	98.94	6D	92.28
2W	98.30	6W	95.00
3G	91.22	Whole School total	96.28
3P	99.31	Cumulative total	96.68

Thank you for your continued support!

Mr James Parkinson – Headteacher