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# Halfpenny Lane Junior, Infant and Nursery School

## Newsletter

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020

### Headteacher Update

It has certainly been a fantastic final week of term in school with so many happy pupils who are all excited for Christmas day! On a personal note, it has been a bitter sweet week as each day draws closer to my final day here.

School closes today and reopens on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – the teachers look forward to seeing the children back then.

### Thank you!

This week has been really emotional for me on a personal level. Though I am excited to start my new challenge at De Lacy Primary School, I am sad to be leaving the brilliant school that is Halfpenny Lane. What has made me emotional is the hundreds of well wishes I have received from parents, grandparents and children of Halfpenny. I cannot thank you enough for the support you have given me over the last three and a half years. Thank you again for your kind words, cards and gifts – they have filled me with joy!

### Letter from Mr Fay

Some of you may have met Mr Fay whilst he has been with me on the school playground this week. You will have also received an introductory letter from him today. I know that he is looking forward to continuing the good work at Halfpenny Lane and meeting all the children and parents after the Christmas break.

### Christmas Dinner

Yesterday, our children had their Christmas dinner. I know the kitchen staff work tirelessly to provide the children with good quality meals and the feedback from the children has been overwhelmingly positive. I thank them for preparing the Christmas meals and I am delighted the children enjoyed them!



### Christmas Parties

On Tuesday, the children came to school dressed in their party clothes ready to enjoy their social bubble Christmas party! They played games, had lots of sweets and thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon. Even Father Christmas was able to visit the EYFS provision and Key Stage 1 to provide them each with a small gift. I hope they enjoy opening it at Christmas!

### Halfpenny Santa Dash

Thank you to all the children who took part in the cross-country Santa Dash on Monday. Though it was a little bit cold, all the children enjoyed taking part. Thank you to all those who kindly donated food to the Pontefract Foodbank. It was gladly received and I know that a lot of the food donated will go into food packages ready for the Christmas season – your continued support is hugely appreciated!



### Nursery/EYFS Nativities

Although we haven't been able to do it our 'normal' way. Our EYFS and Nursery children have been able to film a little Christmas sing-a-long to share with the parents. These videos will be shared via our twitter feed for a short period of time. Please feel free to watch them. I'm so proud of the work the children have done to learn the songs and I'd like to thank the EYFS staff for the work done to make this happen.

## 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	Lily M	3P	The Whole Class
RBM	Leon K	4A	Georgia S
1T	Adam A	4W	Kaiden H
1W	Isabella M	5H	The Whole Class
2S	Elizabeth R	5W	William R
2W	The Whole Class	6D	Jessica C
3G	Ava WP	6W	Jessica G

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

Class	Attendance %	Class	Attendance %
RB	95.48	4A	94.17
RBM	99.14	4W	96.97
1T	89.50	5H	97.33
1W	96.67	5W	99.58
2S	98.28	6D	94.98
2W	95.83	6W	99.17
3G	92.08	Whole School total	95.88
3P	96.12	Cumulative total	96.63

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Mr James Parkinson – Headteacher