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Halfpenny Lane Junior, Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter

Friday 4th December 2020

As we move through December, we are feeling more and more festive at Halfpenny. The Christmas trees are up in classrooms and we have two 8ft trees that are beautifully decorated in our shared areas. The children continue to work exceptionally hard and are making great progress across many different subjects.

10th December MNDA Non-uniform day

Christmas is a time where we can reflect on our lives and how fortunate we are – even in this ongoing pandemic. For some people, Christmas is a difficult time as they continue to suffer with incurable diseases. I’ve spoken to many parents about Motor Neurone Disease and the links to Rob Burrow. So many parents are glad that we can support this charity and help make a difference. On Thursday 10th December, it will be a non-uniform day with all donations going to the Motor Neurone Disease association.

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.

School Council

Each year our pupils elect a school council member to represent their class in whole school discussions. In the past, the school council have decided whole school behaviour rewards, planned charity events, planned and carried out competitions. It is great opportunity for the children to gain an understanding of democracy. Well done to our newly elected council members.

1T	1W	2S	2W	3P	3G	4A	4W	5H	5W	6W	6D
Eliza	Buddy	Kamryn	Henry	Eva	Matilda	Ryan	Amelia	Lily	Freya	Troy	Emme

Christmas Trees

The children have been helping decorate our Christmas trees in our shared area. They look and smell fantastic! Attached with this newsletter is a charity appeal from The Prince of Wales Hospice. After

Christmas, if you allow the Hospice to collect your tree, they will be able to raise funds to support the on-going costs of the charity. Please see the separate communication for more information.



Advent Books

Reading is not just for Christmas...As you will be aware, at Halfpenny Lane we recognise the importance of reading and providing children with quality texts to read. When given the right books, children develop a love of reading and develop their imagination. A strategy at Halfpenny, is each year each class have their own book advent. Every day, the children receive a new book to keep within their class libraries.



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.

Home support

As we begin the start of the new academic year we appreciate all the help you can provide your children at home. The learning journey of each child can only be successful with partnership between home and school. You can help by:

- Listening to your child read at least 4 times a week. Ask questions about what you have read together, can they retrieve information you have just read?
- Help them with timetables. Try making this a game and challenging them to see if they can win or just have fun.
- Ensure they complete their homework or spellings they may have to learn that week.
- Be interested in their learning, discuss what they are doing in school – is there any way you can research further at home what they do in school?

We appreciate all the support you can do at home!



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	Jack H	3P	Evie-Rose M
RBM	Layla-Jade S	4A	Harrison M
1T	Amber L	4W	Harry W
1W	Phoebe B	5H	Cody R
2S	Olivia B	5W	Isla D
2W	Jack D	6D	George B
3G	William H	6W	Callum B

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

Class	Attendance %	Class	Attendance %
RB	95.00	4A	98.00
RBM	97.24	4W	97.32
1T	91.00	5H	98.67
1W	95.00	5W	99.32
2S	99.31	6D	94.00
2W	97.84	6W	97.33
3G	94.59	Whole School total	96.72
3P	98.62	Cumulative total	96.72

Thank you for your continued support!

Mr James Parkinson – Head of School

