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Halfpenny Lane Junior, Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter

Friday 12th February 2021

The first half term, of an eventful Spring, has come to an end. I think we will all be glad to see the back of the snow and the ice. I have been extremely proud of our pupils over the past 6 weeks. They have demonstrated a resilience and 'grit' that you would not expect of people so young. I sincerely cannot wait until they all come back to school. It is simply not the same without full classrooms. I am imagining that you as parents and carers feel the same way. Our staff are longing for the days when we can experience vibrant noisy corridors without the persistent threat of Covid hanging over our community. This day will certainly come, we just have to exercise a little more patience.

Thank you, as parents and carers of our wonderful children for supporting and helping us get through the first half term. We were delighted to receive such positive feedback on our remote learning offer, not just within our school, but from across the primary and secondary phases of the Trust. It is clearly evident we are putting the right provision in place, and this has been recognised beyond our town and locality. However, we will not stay static with our remote provision. Our offer, as you will see over the upcoming weeks, will continue to evolve to support you as best we can. We are planning additional exciting activities to engage and enrich home life, not just for the children, but for families. These changes are in response to feedback we have gratefully received and acted upon within the survey. Teachers will communicate these activities over the forthcoming weeks – watch this space.

Please enjoy your half term break and above all else stay safe. Let the children know we miss them and cannot wait for their return. Take care of each other.

Fairtrade Fortnight: Monday 22nd February – Friday 7th March

Fairtrade is about better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability, and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world. For two weeks each year, at the end of February and start of March, Fairtrade Fortnight is a significant few weeks which enables thousands of individuals, companies and groups across the UK to come together to share the stories of the people who grow our food and drinks, mine our gold and who grow the cotton in our clothes, people who are often exploited and underpaid. It provides a more in-depth spotlight on Fairtrade and raises awareness of the important work they do in supporting fairer pay and conditions for farmers and workers in developing countries.

Fairtrade Fortnight this year will focus on 'Climate, Fairtrade and You', which will highlight the growing challenges that climate change brings to farmers and workers in the communities Fairtrade works with. During this fortnight, staff will be promoting Fairtrade through activities and discussions that will help them understand the incredible work they do. This will be through our remote learning offer, on Class Dojo and Twitter. Activities and resources will be provided that you can complete together as a family, which I am sure you will enjoy.

Classroom Kitchen

We are really pleased to share a fantastic wellbeing opportunity with you, which will add to our existing remote learning offer. Previously, we have had 'Classroom Kitchen' in school, where children from particular year groups have participated in their cooking and nutritional lessons. However, after half term we will be providing you with free access to cooking videos, nutritional resources and lessons that you can follow and participate in as a whole family. We are really looking forward to sharing more information, alongside the resources, after half-term, so watch this space!

World Book Day – Thursday 4th March

On Thursday 4th March, it is World Book Day 2021! This is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate books, our favourite authors and how reading can develop our creativity and inspire us to write more. As usual, children at home and in school are invited to join the staff in dressing up as an appropriate book character. A separate communication was sent out yesterday explaining all the exciting things which will be taking place.

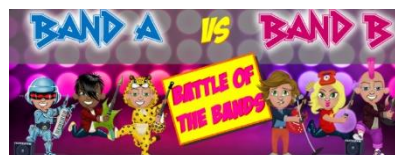
Weekly Challenges

Well done to all of our amazing children this week on continuing to work hard and participate in our weekly challenges / battles. Please see the results below:



Children with the most correct answers over the past 7 days:

1 st	Eloise – 2S	9, 209
2 nd	Laya – 2W	5, 003
3 rd	Sophie – 4W	4, 230



Battle	Winning Class
2S V 2W	2S
3P V 3G	3P
4A V 4W	4W
5H V 5W	5H
6D V 6W	6W

We are incredibly impressed with the scores this week on TT Rockstars, especially our Year 2 children. Keep working hard everyone, as I know you all love Times Table Rockstars, but I wonder who is going to be the biggest Rockstar of them all? Battles on Times Table Rockstars have begun! The battle will run from Friday evening until Thursday evening and will include half-term.

Reading challenge:

Well done to all of our children for working incredibly hard on their reading this week. Our reading challenge has been extremely close between the classes this week so continue to try your best and read at least 4 times each week to help your class win. The winning classes this week are: 1W, 2W, 3P, 4A, 5W, 6D



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!

Child of the week!		
Year	In School	Live Lessons
Rec	Jessica T	Paige C
Year 1	Sonny H	Elsie R
Year 2	Joe J	Eloise B
Year 3	Charlie C	Matilda B
Year 4	All Children	All Children
Year 5	Isla D	Maycee D
Year 6	Alicja M	Aaron B



[Come and follow Halfpenny Lane on Twitter!](#)



For those parents/carers who are not yet aware, you can now follow our school and the Trust on Twitter. Please take a look and see all of the fantastic things that we are doing in school, as well as our other schools across the Trust!

The Halfpenny Lane Twitter feed is: [@halfpennylane](#)

The Trust Twitter feed is: [@PontefractAT](#)

Enjoy your half term break, continue to stay safe with your families.

Mr T Fay (Director of Primary Education and Headteacher of Halfpenny Lane)