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# Halfpenny Lane Junior, Infant and Nursery School

## Newsletter

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021

### School Re-opening

We have finally reached the last day of lockdown for our school. Next week we are fully open and fully operational. We are all genuinely excited and thrilled to be welcoming everyone back. I am sure the children are looking forward to seeing their friends and teachers, and you as parents are looking forward to claiming back your time also!

In my communication on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March, I described in detail what the full re-opening would look like. As you would expect we have a robust risk assessment in place and the necessary mitigating controls to ensure our staff, pupils and community are as safe as possible as we move towards the easing of the national restrictions. You have a big part to play in keeping us all safe and ensuring that we can get back to the business of educating our wonderful children. Below are a set of reminders about our non-negotiable expectations for Monday. Please forgive me for any repetition in my communication about health and safety and attendance, but I want everyone to be on the 'same page' from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

- The school is open for ALL our children on 8<sup>th</sup> March and attendance is compulsory. Senior leaders will be communicating with any families where there are absences for unknown reasons. I cannot stress enough the intrinsic correlation between pupil progress in all areas of their development and attendance. As adults, it is our responsibility to ensure they get the education that they fully deserve.
- Breakfast provision, for those who have booked it, will recommence. After school clubs will be phased back in over the course of the academic year.
- Pupils are expected to be in full uniform on their return to school. On the days where they have PE lessons they may wear their PE kit into school and bring a change of footwear with them if necessary. These days will be communicated to you by the class teachers in due course.
- We expect parents and carers to consider the safety of others when circulating our school, to drop off and pick up their children. Social distancing measures are in place around the school. Please do not take offence if you are gently challenged to stay 2m apart. This is to keep all of our community safe and ensure no one feels that there is unnecessary risk when bringing or collecting children from their educational setting.
- We will be contacting families with the arrangements regarding remote learning for those pupils that are required to shield or who are required to isolate at home from 8<sup>th</sup> March. Remote learning will be offered to these children ONLY. All other children, with the exception of those who are genuinely ill, should be in school.
- Finally, if you have already not done so, can you return any devices the school provided you with to support remote learning over the lockdown period.

### World Book Day – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March

We had such an incredible day yesterday celebrating World Book Day 2021! Reading is at the heart of our entire school curriculum so this day is always a special one in our school calendar. It was lovely to see so many of our children (and staff), at home and in school, dressing up as their favourite book characters. We were so impressed with how inventive everyone was! We have had some fantastic submissions for our 'heroes' writing competition; well done to everyone who has taken part. It was incredibly difficult to choose our winners but we have selected the following children from each year group to receive a £10 book voucher:

Year 1: Alfie CH  
Year 2: Phoebe A  
Year 3: Matilda B  
Year 4: Jack G  
Year 5: Josephine H  
Year 6: Oliver F

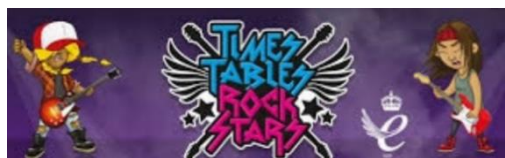


## **British Science Week: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March – Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March**

British Science Week begins today and we are really looking forward to further exploring the innovation of Science. Don't forget, we are running a poster competition linked to the theme 'Innovating for the Future'. You could create a new toy, machine or medicine: try to think outside the box. You could go futuristic or even global and think about an innovation that would make the world a better place. The choice is yours! Your entries must be given to your class teacher by **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** where the winners will be announced in our celebration assembly on **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March**.

### **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:**

<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	Lucas E – 5H	6, 663
<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Laya T – 2W	6, 319
<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	Luke B – 6W	4, 265



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

We are incredibly impressed with the scores this week on TT Rockstars, especially our Year 2 children. Keeping 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: 1T, 2W, 3P, 4A, 5W, 6W.



## **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!

<b>Child of the week!</b>		
<b>Year</b>	<b>In School</b>	<b>Live Lessons</b>
Rec	All Children	All Children
Year 1	Hannah T	All Children
Year 2	Tommy W	Dillan M
Year 3	Jayce M	All Children
Year 4	Tyler M	Aria P
Year 5	All Children	Olly S
Year 6	Oliver F	Tyler-Ronn C



**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**

Thank you all once again for your amazing support for our World Book Day event. Reading is at the heart of our curriculum and the more we can engage young people to read the more likely it is they will experience academic and personal success.

I sincerely look forward to seeing you all on Monday. It has been a while since I could say that to the whole community! Stay safe over the weekend and as always if you have any questions or concerns please contact the school.

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