



HALFPENNY LANE

J, I & N SCHOOL

Halfpenny Lane J, I & N School
Halfpenny Lane
Pontefract
West Yorkshire
WF8 4BW
T: 01977 703270
W: halfpenny.patrust.org.uk
E: admin@halfpenny.patrust.org.uk

19th March 2021

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you are all well and that your children are enjoying the new routine of being back in school full time.

The government has recently confirmed that the May polls for the local by-elections will go ahead as planned in some areas. Public Health England have been working closely with the Electoral Commission to support Covid safe elections.

Some of our schools, as they have in previous years, will be used as local polling stations. We are acutely aware that this year children have missed vital time in school and we are committed to minimising any further disruption. Wakefield Metropolitan District Council who manage the local by-elections have exhausted a search for alternative premises but this has been unsuccessful. As a result, Halfpenny Lane Junior, Infant and Nursery school will be closed on Thursday 6th May to all pupils. All lessons on this day will be taught remotely via the online learning methods we used during the last lockdown. As a Trust, we feel closing the school is by far the most sensible option in order to keep the risk of spread low and avoid our children coming in to contact with those visiting to vote.

The voting will be happening in an area within the school that is not actively used by any of our children and measures will be in place to ensure the school can safely re-open the next day. A full health and safety risk assessment has been carried out and will be in place. Areas where members of the public will have passed through will be fully ventilated, all touch points will be sanitised and a full deep clean will be conducted.

Thank you for your understanding.

Yours sincerely

Mr T Fay
Headteacher