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Halfpenny Lane Junior, Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter

Friday 14th May 2021

What a wet week it's been this week! Our pupils have continued to fully immerse themselves in their learning, from growing beanstalks, to enacting parts of their class reading canon book, to roleplaying in conjunction with a popular music video as a stimulus for their writing, to name but a few of their activities!

Parents Evening – School Cloud

Our parents' evenings are just around the corner - 26th and 27th May, 3:30-7:00pm. These will be 'virtual' appointments, meaning you will join the meeting via video link rather than coming into school. Please don't forget to log on and book your appointment if you haven't already done so.

RSE Policy

From the 7th June 2021, the last half term of this academic school year, we have a statutory duty to begin the teaching of the new Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education curriculum. The teaching of the content is now a compulsory part of primary and secondary education. We have carefully planned for our children to know how to be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal, and social lives in a positive way. The world is rapidly changing around us, and we need our children to be confident in their abilities when dealing with these changes. The policy has been shared with an initial focus group comprising of school performance and review board members for approval. We are now in a position to share it with you before the teaching commences after half term. Please find the policy on our website here <https://halfpenny.patrust.org.uk/policies/>

If you have any queries or questions, do not hesitate to email the school on admin@halfpenny.patrust.org.uk by 21st May 2021.

School Payments

From Friday 28th May we will no longer use ParentPay for school payments, instead payments will be made through the MCAS application. If you have not already downloaded this please do so; you can also keep up with school communication on there too. We will email you with more details shortly.

Music Competition

Music is an area of our curriculum which we will be developing over the next few months not only because our pupils are very excited and motivated by it, but also because we feel strongly about the importance of music as part of education, personal development and well-being. We are also extremely fortunate to have some very talented and musical staff! We will be holding an exciting music competition over the half-term holiday which we hope many of the children will become involved in. Watch out for the letter coming out on Monday with more details. We look forward to seeing and hearing your entries!

School Photos

All being well, we would like to go ahead with our class photos this year, following all our usual COVID safety precautions. This would take place on 17th June. If you **would not** like your child to have their photograph taken, please email the school office on admin@halfpenny.patrust.org.uk

Success Stories

Please don't forget to let us know about your child's achievements so that we can share and celebrate them. These can include absolutely anything, from mastering a skill (such as riding a bike, swimming, fastening shoelaces, playing an instrument etc) to the achievement of an award in a club (e.g. dancing, gymnastics, martial arts, etc).

Attendance

I am sure you appreciate the importance of good attendance and the importance this has on pupils' academic achievement and overall well-being. Punctuality is an important element of this and we have extremely high expectations of pupils being punctual to lessons and to school. From Monday 17th May we will be requesting information relating to why pupils are late for those who arrive at school after the start time for their year group, to allow us to support them getting to school on time in an effort to make the most of valuable learning time.

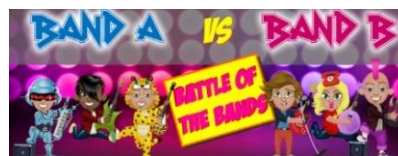
Weekly Challenges

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:

1st	Erin H – 5H	22,070
2nd	Sophie O – 4W	21,506
3rd	Samuel W – 4A	8,859



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

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, 6D. Year 5 were tied.



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	Zachary WP	3P	Mia B
RBM	Lucy-Grace G	4A	Harry G
1T	Dylan S	4W	Luka C
1W	Cara H	5H	Brooklyn G
2S	Lucus G	5W	Cody S
2W	Poppy S	6D	George B
3G	Lacy F	6W	Jessica G

Attendance

Attendance really matters! If a child is not in school then they are missing out on important learning opportunities. Our aim is to have a whole class attendance of above 96%. If your child is ill and unable to attend, please telephone school and leave a message on the absence line (option 1).

Class	Attendance %	Class	Attendance %
RB	97.87	4A	97.24
RBM	95.52	4W	98.97
1T	97.33	5H	97.67
1W	92.04	5W	97.54
2S	94.29	6D	95.33
2W	95.77	6W	93.58
3G	94.67	Whole School total	96.15
3P	99.31	Cumulative total	96.35

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**

Mrs H. McNeill
Headteacher