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Halfpenny Lane Junior, Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter

Friday 25th June 2021

I'd like to say a huge 'well done' to our Y2 and Y6 pupils who have worked so hard when completing their SATs assessments this week. They showed great tenacity and perseverance and we are very proud of them. Undoubtedly pupils in Y1-5 will work just as hard next week as they complete their assessments as well!

Safety First

You may have noticed that we now close all the school gates once all the pupils are in school in the morning. We would like you to help us keep the pupils safe by please making sure the gates are kept closed once you have entered and left the school premises, thank you.

I would also like to appeal for help in reducing and minimising the danger around 'drop off' and 'pick up' at the beginning and end of school please. There is an extremely high volume of traffic around school with a number of cars even mounting the curb at points, which is extremely unsafe for pedestrians – our pupils and their families. HPL has a wonderful community of parents and carers and I am sure this could easily be extended to showing care, patience and consideration whilst out on the road at these extremely busy times. Thank you for support with this.

Gardening Volunteers

We were hoping that we could begin inviting our parents/carers back in to school from next week, had lockdown been relaxed. As disappointed as we are that things will have to remain unchanged for the remainder of term, we see no reason why we can't begin to sort out our school garden and allotment, as well as our wildlife area. We are therefore appealing for parent volunteers who would like to help with this in whatever way you can. If this is something you are interested in and you think you could help with, please let the office staff know next week.

COVID safety

I would like to thank parents for being so understanding this week with our 'bubble' closure – your full support meant the class could self-isolate as quickly as possible with little disruption to the rest of the school.

We are now beginning to increase the activities and events we have on offer, for the rest of this term and the last thing we want is to compromise any of these! I would therefore ask that you join us in being super vigilant with our COVID safety, mixing outside of school etc, to allow these events to go ahead as planned, thank you.

Attendance

Our daily attendance jumped to just over 97% for the first time in a long time, on Thursday this week. Of course it's not just about the data, but about our pupils being in school to make up for the learning that has already been lost this year. We appreciate your support with our ambition of having attendance rates which are above national expectations, to ensure your children have the very best opportunities. If you are in any doubt as to whether or not to send your child into school, for whatever reason, rather than keeping them home, please give us a ring and we would be happy to discuss this with you. We would also like to request that you get in touch with us each day that your child is absent, please. Thank you.

Communication with School

We are pleased with the strong communication we have with our parents and carers, particularly during this time when we've been unable to allow parents and carers into school. We appreciate that Class Dojo is a large part of this but would request that this does not become a substitute for 'official' lines of communication, via the school office, for planning meetings, asking questions about school meals etc. Our admin staff will be only too happy to deal with such requests. Thank you.

Tea Party

My Tea Party winners this week are :

OBM - Layton

OB - Freya

1T-Isabelle

1W - Harper

2W - Seth

2S - Kamryn

3G - Matilda

3H - Mia

4W - Sophie

4B - Lily

5W - George

5H - Ella

6W - Thomas

6d - Tyler-Ronn

Mrs H. McNeill
Headteacher

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**