



Headteacher: Mrs H. McNeill
Assistant Headteachers: Mrs Kate Gawthorp & Miss Lauren Whitehead
Chair of Governors: Mr Tim Craven

Address: Halfpenny Lane, Pontefract, WF8 4BW
Phone: 01977 703270
Email address: admin@halfpenny.patrust.org.uk
www.halfpenny.patrust.org.uk

Halfpenny Lane Junior, Infant and Nursery School Newsletter

Friday 17th September 2021

What a fantastic second week it's been! We have loved welcoming back our Nursery and Reception children this week and they have settled in really well with their new teachers and friends! Some incredible learning has taken place this week, from the children exploring 'school rules' in conjunction with their reading canon book 'But why can't I?', to some incredible water-colour painting and research around 'the planets'. The whole school were also fortunate enough to be able to enjoy a music-concert which has inspired a number of pupils to want to learn how to play a musical instrument!

Morrisons Tokens

Mrs Evans and a small group of parent volunteers have begun to work on developing the school 'Pomfret Garden'. Our aim is to fully involve our pupils in the process of developing and maintaining the garden and we would appreciate your support with helping us purchase equipment for the pupils to use.

Morrisons have just launched their 'Good to Grow' programme so you can help make Halfpenny Lane a 'growing school'. All you have to do is download the app, collect grow tokens and choose to donate them to our school. For every £10 you spend in store or online, you'll receive a grow token which we will be able to exchange for free gardening equipment.



Let's make Halfpenny Lane a growing school together! [It's Good to Grow - Morrisons Blog](#)

Caretaker vacancy at The Rookeries

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic, hardworking and committed Caretaker within our Trust. The candidate will provide a well maintained, safe, secure and clean working environment for the school and move furniture and equipment as required. The post holder will be responsible for assisting with regular security checks, reporting any security breaches and safeguarding pupils in the event of an incident. They will also be responsible for supervision of the cleaning team to ensure all areas meet high standards expected by the school. To find out more about this role and to apply please visit: [Vacancies : Pontefract Academies Trust](#)

Flu Immunisations

Parental consent forms have been sent home this week for the annual flu immunisations. Please complete and return to your child's class teacher by Friday 24th September, thank you.

Parliament Workshop

Our Y6's are looking forward to their Parliament Workshops, starting next week, which will be delivered virtually from The Houses of Parliament, education division. We hope this prepares them well as we get ready to launch our first Pupil Parliament at Halfpenny Lane. We look forward to seeing our school leaders emerge and the manifestos they put together!

Halfpenny Values - Courage

Please see the attached information to help with supporting your child with learning about this term's value, whilst at home:





READ TOGETHER...

The Courage of David the Shepherd Boy

One day as David the shepherd boy was carrying lunch to his older brothers in the Israelite army he heard an angry booming voice thunder across the fields. "I am Goliath, and I dare you to pick someone to fight me."

The voice was coming from the Philistine ranks and went on taunting the Israelites and their God. As David grew closer he could see the giant Goliath strutting up and down. He could also see the terrified faces of King Saul and his soldiers. This made David very angry and more than a little ashamed. He decided he must go and see the king.

"I will fight that bully Goliath!" David announced.

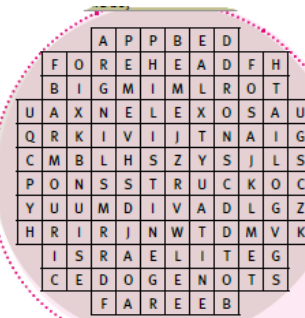
It was all that King Saul could do not to laugh out loud. "You are just a boy David, a small boy. Goliath has been a mighty soldier all his life."

"But when the wild animals attack my father's sheep," protested David, "I fight them off with my sling and staff. I have killed many lions and bears and I will do the same to this wicked Philistine. Do not fear for God is on our side."

King Saul was taken aback. "Well, I suppose you should be given a chance. At least let me lend you some armour and a sword." But the armour was heavy and David was not used to it. He returned the armour to Saul and instead picked up five smooth stones from the stream and marched out **courageously** to face Goliath.

The giant laughed scornfully at the small boy and shouted curses at him. David did not flinch. "This very day you will be defeated and everyone here will see that the Lord does not need swords or spears to save his people."

As Goliath lowered his shield and aimed his spear at the boy, quick as a flash, David loaded a stone into his sling, spun it around above his head and sent it spinning through the air towards Goliath. The stone struck the giant on his forehead and he crumpled to the ground. Goliath was dead. There was a moment of stunned silence before the whoops and cheers from the Israelite army echoed around the hillsides. This was a day no-one would forget, when the **courage** of a shepherd boy saved a nation.



QUIZ Wordsearch

Find the words from the story in the grid on Goliath's shield.

ARMOUR	BOY	DAVID
COURAGE	FOREHEAD	GIANT
GOLIATH	GOD	ISRAELITE
PHILISTINE	SHIELD	SLING
SOLDIER	STONE	STRUCK



After School Clubs

Thank you for your patience with the booking of after school clubs.

If you have any difficulty in reserving your child's place in a club, please don't hesitate to let us know and we'll do all we can to try and ensure they get into the club of their choice!

Young Voices

A reminder about Young Voices club after school on Tuesday (until 4:30). We are hoping to have the MCAS set up next week so that T-shirts can be ordered and purchased electronically – thank you for your understanding with this!

High School Open Evenings

Please see below for events at both of our Trust Secondary Schools – we hope you are able to attend:

Nursery Coffee Morning 21st September 2021

I am really looking forward to meeting more of our parents next week. We hope you are able to attend one of our events!

Harvest Festival

We will be celebrating Harvest Festival on 29th September and would like to make a school donation to the local community and food bank. We would very much appreciate if our families could begin to make donations of non-perishable items to school, in preparation for this, please. Thank you.

Phonics Meeting for Parents

We know how much our parents/carers want to support their children with their early reading development and to make sure you are equipped with all the necessary information and skills, we would like to invite you to attend the phonics meeting on 30th September. I have no doubt you will find the meeting extremely useful and hope you are able to join us.

September/October Events

Last week I shared with you the full calendar of events we have planned for the year as we know that you will want to join us for many of these. Please see September and October's events attached by way of a reminder:

2021 2022 Termly Events/Activities

Parents/Carers are invited to attend/participate in highlighted events

September

- 14th – 1:30, Staff band performance (Wakefield Music Service), 6:00 Y5 London Trip Meeting for parents
- 21st – 9:00 and 12:30 Nursery Parents Coffee Morning, 3:30-4:30 KS2 Girls Active Squad Meeting
- 23rd – 9:15, Reception Parents Coffee Morning, 11:30 Y6 UK Parliament Workshop
- 27th – 11:30 Y5 UK Parliament Workshop
- 28th – 3:30-5:00, Y5/6 Boys Football Tournament at A1 Football Factory

- 29th - Harvest Festival, followed by donations of non-perishable items to the community
- 30th – 9:15, Reception Parents’ Phonics Meeting

October

- 1st – 9:50, Y5/6 Family Fitness Friday
- w/B 4th -Cross Country Week
- 5th – 3:30 Y3/4 Cake Sale (please could we request donations of buns/cakes etc from our Y3/4 pupils); Parents’ Evening
- 6th – Parents’ Evening
- 12th – 6:00 Esafety Parent Workshop
- 14th – 9:15, Y5 Learning Festival and Coffee Morning
- 15th – KS2 School Games Cross Country at De Lacy High School
- 19th -3:30-5:00 Y5/6 Girls Football at A1 Football Factory
- 20th – 9:15, Y6 Learning Festival and Coffee Morning
- 21st - Halloween disco – 4:30-5:30 Y1-Y3 6:00-7:00 Y4-Y6
- 22nd – 9:50, Y3/4 Family Fitness Friday, Finish for half term holiday



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	The Whole Class	3W	Olivia B
RBM	The Whole Class	4HW	Willow G
1T	Oliver R	4W	Thomas B
1P	The Whole Class	5H	Georgia S
2S	Zeke K	5W	James B
2A	Artuss S	6D	Louie D
3G	Frankie-Lou B	6W	Charley 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 97%. 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	95.3	4HW	96.6
RBM	93.9	4W	97.8
1T	99.4	5H	97.8
1P	95.7	5W	97.4
2S	97.8	6D	99.7
2A	95.2	6W	97.3
3G	94.7	Whole School total	97.3
3W	98.1	Cumulative total	97.4

**Don't forget to 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



**THE KING'S
SCHOOL**

You Are Invited To Our
OPEN EVENING

Join us for our open evening and learn why
The King's School is the option for you.

Thursday 7th October

Doors open at 5pm · Headteacher talk at 5.30pm and 6.30pm · Doors close at 7.30pm

The King's School, Mill Hill Lane, Pontefract, West Yorkshire, WF8 4JF (Sat Nav WF8 4EU)
Tel: 01977 601701 | Email: admin@kings.patrust.org.uk
Twitter: [@kingspontefract](https://twitter.com/kingspontefract) | Web: kings.patrust.org.uk



CARLETON
HIGH SCHOOL

You Are Invited To Our
OPEN EVENING

Join us for our open evening and learn why
Carleton High School is the option for you.

Thursday 30th September

Doors open at 5pm · Headteacher talk at 5.30pm and 6.30pm · Doors close at 7.30pm

Green Lane, Carleton, Pontefract, West Yorkshire, WF8 3NW.
Tel: 01977 781555 • Email: admin@carletonhigh.patrust.org.uk
Twitter: @PATCarletonHigh • Web: carletonhigh.patrust.org.uk