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# Halfpenny Lane Junior, Infant and Nursery School

## Newsletter

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021

We have been amazed by our pupils' enterprising skills this week as they have put together the finishing touches to their Christmas Fayre goodies. We were disappointed at having to cancel our fayre, but are pleased that the pupils will still be able to sell their products! Our nativities are really coming together and we look forward to you being able to join us next week and seeing your children perform!

### Bon Voyage Miss Keith

Miss Keith has decided to follow an ambition to travel the world and carry out some volunteering in less fortunate communities overseas – she will therefore be leaving us at the end of this term!

Miss Keith is a highly valued member of the school community and really will be missed by everyone, in particular, the Y6 Team! We wish her all the very best for the exciting adventure she is about to embark upon and hope she will come and tell us all about it when she returns!

### Chocolate Challenge

It has been wonderful to see such generosity with our Class Chocolate Challenge and we are looking forward to being able to raffle this on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021. The winning year group by far was year 6 who will enjoy a movie afternoon with popcorn and snacks.

### Christmas Fayre Continuity Arrangements

During the course of next week, classes will be arranging their products in the window of their classrooms for you to have a look at. Each class will be given time on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December to 'shop' for their chosen products so will need to bring money to school on that day.

We will be holding a chocolate raffle on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021. Raffle tickets will be on sale from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December at a cost of 20p per ticket/5 for £1. Please make sure you get your tickets for the chance to win one of 14 amazing chocolate hampers!

We have a wonderful array of bottles now in school, thanks again to your wonderful generosity. We will be holding a bottle tombola on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> – tickets for this will be available on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> (so as not to be confused with the chocolate raffle). Tickets will be 20p each or 5 for £1.

All monies raised will contribute to our school fund which will help purchase some of the latest technology for pupil performances and to support the IT work of our digital leaders and classes.

## Making Every Minute Matter

Thank you for your support with this – we have noticed a difference already in pupils arriving at school and being able to start their learning, more promptly:

*You will be aware that our school start time is 8:50. In an effort to ensure that all pupils are in school and ready to learn at 8:50, teachers will bring in their classes at 8:45 so we would appreciate if pupils could be at school for this time. Thank you.*

## Nativity Reminders

Please note that the dates for our Y1/2 Nativity are 6:00pm on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December and 1:45 on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December. The children already sound amazing and we hope you are able to join us!

Our EYFs nativity performances are at 10:00 am and 2:00 pm on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December.

A reminder that, in order to ensure everyone who wants to, gets to see the performances, we have limited tickets to two per child.

Please could I also remind parents of the change to guidelines and a request for your support in helping us keep everyone safe and well. Please could we ask that you carry out a lateral flow test prior to attending and do not attend if you have any symptoms. We also ask that hands are sanitized on entry into school and that masks are worn for the duration of your time in the building. Thank you.

## Singing for Christmas

Our Young Voices choir sang at Junction 32 last Friday to support The Prince of Wales Hospice fundraising. The pupils were amazing ambassadors for our school with their exemplary behaviour and even more exemplary singing! We were incredibly proud of them as I'm sure those parents who attended were! We even managed to raise £79.97 for the hospice which was the icing on the cake – well done to you all!

Some of our Y5/6 pupils sang in the town centre this week and, once again, managed to get everyone in the Christmas spirit. They also represented our school incredibly well and know that Y5 will do the same when they sing at the Barracks on 14<sup>th</sup> December.

We had an additional 'carols in the community' date on our events calendar which will no longer take place. Our intention was to sing at the hospice, but unfortunately have felt it prudent to not go ahead with this due to the new variant.

We feel that the pupils have not missed out due to the events listed above and we hope to resume our church visit from next year.

## PTFA

We held our first PTFA meeting this week and although this is currently a small group, we hope we will see it grow over the coming months, especially as the team becomes more involved in some of our forthcoming events. If you would be interested in volunteering any of your time in this way, even if you aren't able to attend all of the meetings, please get in touch: [admin@halfpenny.patrust.org.uk](mailto:admin@halfpenny.patrust.org.uk) 01977 703270

## SEND Parent Forum

We hope you are able to join us for a chat about our school and our SEND provision, over a cuppa, at 2:30 on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December. These events are very informal and everyone is welcome!

## Reindeer Run

The school will take part in the Reindeer Run on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021 in support of The Prince of Wales Hospice. You should have by now received your sponsor forms and these should be returned on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December. This promises to be a very exciting day, all for a great cause!

## 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 1P, 2S, 3G, 4HW, 5H, 6D



## 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	Luna C	3W	Phoebe A
RBM	Esther W	4W	Skarlett C
1P	Ayla B	4HW	Logan P
1T	Isaak A	5H	Jack G
2S	Cara H	5W	Luka C
2A	Lilah MB	6D	Ruby D
3G	Maisie P	6W	Joe C

## 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).

We are unfortunately continuing to see a dip in our attendance as winter viruses continue to circulate. Please could I remind parents that we are more than happy for children to attend school with colds, sore throats and runny noses. Our staff have a very keen eye for spotting children who are really under the weather and would be better off at home and we won't hesitate to get in touch if this is the case

Class	Attendance %	Class	Attendance %
RB	94.3	4HW	96.3
RBM	98.2	4W	95.5
1T	95.1	5H	92.3
1P	93.7	5W	89.9
2S	96.6	6D	92.9
2A	92.3	6W	97.3
3G	91.9	Whole School total	94.2
3W	96.2	Cumulative total	95.7

## 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](#)

## 2021 2022 Termly Events/Activities

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

### **Christmas Dinner - Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December**

The school Christmas dinner will take place on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December. If you haven't already done so please return the reply slip indicating your choice of meal on the day. This needs to be returned for all children even if you are bringing your own packed lunch. If you are unable to print the letter at home then please complete one from school on Monday morning as we need to finalise the numbers then. Please note that we are unable to offer alternative options such as grab bag sandwiches and jacket potatoes on this day and if your child does not want a Christmas dinner you will need to send them with a packed lunch. Also, the roast of the day option will not be provided on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December as children will have already had a roast Christmas dinner option on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December.

### December

- 7<sup>th</sup> – 1:30-3:00 Y2 Multi skills
- 9<sup>th</sup> - 1:30-3:00 Y2 Multi skills
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Polar Express Day (everyone in pyjamas)
- 6<sup>th</sup> December – EYFS Nativity Dress Rehearsal
- 8<sup>th</sup> – 10:00am and 2:00pm EYFS Nativity, 6pm KS1 Nativity
- 9<sup>th</sup> – 1:45 KS1 Nativity
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Santa Dash Cross Country
- 16<sup>th</sup> – Pupils Finish for Christmas
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Staff INSET

### January

- 4<sup>th</sup> – Pupils back to school
- 7<sup>th</sup> - Young Voices Concert, FLYDSA Arena
- 10<sup>th</sup> – 2:30, Young Voices Parent Concert, Pupils' Art Gallery
- 19<sup>th</sup> – 9:15, Y2 Learning Festival and Coffee Morning, 3:00pm Reception Parents' Maths Meeting
- 24<sup>th</sup> – 9:15-10:30 Grandparents Morning
- 26<sup>th</sup> – 6:00pm, Parent Workshop (topic to be confirmed)
- 27<sup>th</sup> - Holocaust Memorial Day (KS2)

### February

- 1<sup>st</sup> – 2:00, Class Singing Competition
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – 9:15, Year 1 Learning Festival and Coffee Morning
- 9<sup>th</sup> – 9:15-10:30 'Men Behaving Dadly'
- 14<sup>th</sup> - Valentines' Disco – 4:30-5:30 Y1-Y3      6:00-7:00 Y4-Y6
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Spring School Debate
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Finish for half term
- 28<sup>th</sup> – Pupils back to school

### March

- 1<sup>st</sup> – 6:00, Easter Bingo
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – World Book Day (dress up as favourite book character)
- 28<sup>th</sup> Feb - 7<sup>th</sup> – Fairtrade Fortnight
- 8<sup>th</sup> - Masterchef Day (Linked to Fairtrade)

- 9<sup>th</sup> – 9:15, Y6 Learning Festival and Coffee morning
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Nursery and Reception Cake Sale, Parents' Evening
- 16<sup>th</sup> – Parents' Evening
- 30<sup>th</sup> – 9:15, Y5 Learning Festival and Coffee Morning

## April

- 2<sup>nd</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> May – Ramadan
- 5<sup>th</sup> – 6:00pm, Awards Evening/Festival of Music
- 6<sup>th</sup> - 9:15-10:30 'Where the Wild Mums Are'
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Finish for Easter
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Pupils back to school
- 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> – Y5 Residential visit to London

## May

- 2<sup>nd</sup> – School closed
- 3<sup>rd</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> – KS1 assessments
- 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> – Y6 SATs week
- 12<sup>th</sup> – HPL Got Talent
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Sports Day and Parents' Picnic and Y4/5 Cake Sale
- 16<sup>th</sup> - 9:15, Y4 Learning Festival and coffee morning
- 17<sup>th</sup> - HPL Got Talent Finals
- 27<sup>th</sup> – finish for half term

## June

- 6<sup>th</sup> – Pupils return to school
- 6<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> – Y4 statutory multiplication check, KS1 statutory phonics screening
- 8<sup>th</sup> – 9:15 Y3 Learning Festival and Coffee Morning
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Sports Day and Parents' Picnic Reserve Day
- Y6 residential visit
- 14<sup>th</sup> – 6:00, Parent Workshop (topic to be confirmed)
- 16<sup>th</sup> – 9:15, Y2 Learning Festival and Coffee Morning
- 20<sup>th</sup> – 3:30, Y3 and Y6 Cake Sale
- 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> - Summer camp
- 30<sup>th</sup> – 9:15am RBM Outdoor Workshop, 2:00pm RB Outdoor Workshop

## July

- 8<sup>th</sup> – 3:30, Summer Fayre
- 12<sup>th</sup> - Summer production dress rehearsal
- 13<sup>th</sup> – 1:30pm, Summer production matinee performance, 9:15-Reception EYFS Graduation Assembly
- 14<sup>th</sup> – 6:00pm, Summer production evening performance
- 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> – Eid-al-Adha
- 20<sup>th</sup> – 9:30 End of Year Awards
- 21<sup>st</sup> – 2:00, Y6 Leavers Service, Pupils finish for summer

