

Halfpenny Lane Junior, Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter



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

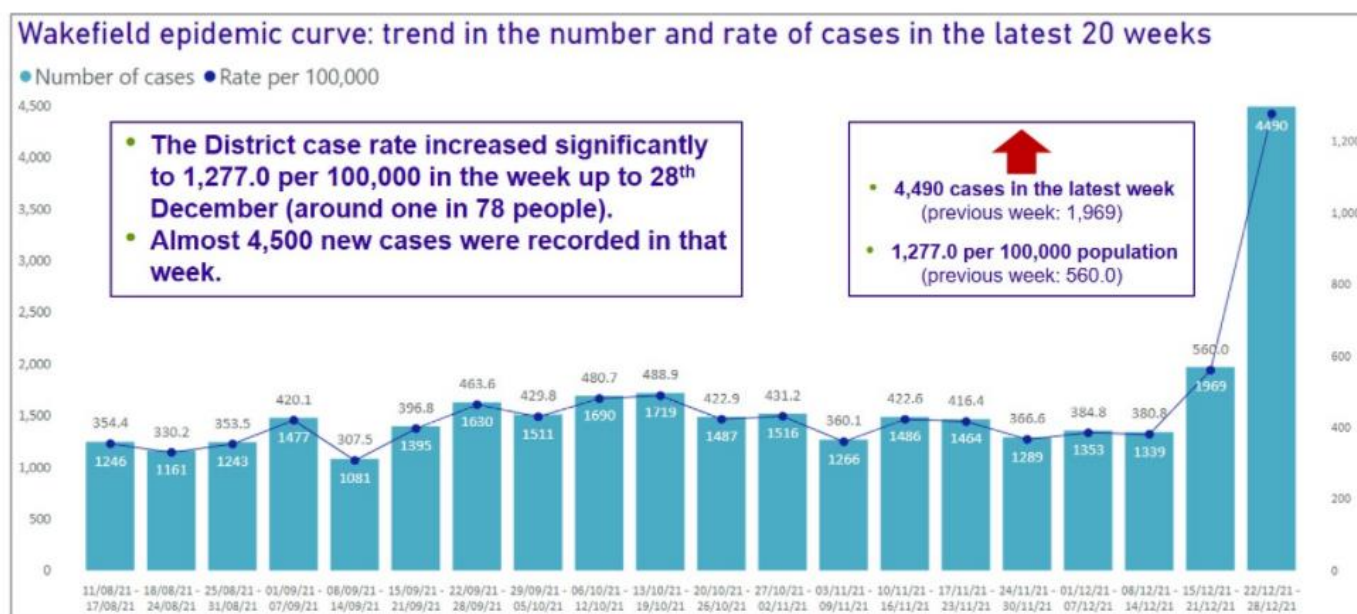
Address: Halfpenny Lane, Pontefract, WF8 4BW
Phone: 01977 703270
Email address: admin@halfpenny.patrust.org.uk
www.halfpenny.patrust.org.uk

Friday 7th January 2022

Happy New Year to you all! It has been lovely to see the pupils back with their batteries re-charged and ready to learn and we hope that you had a thoroughly enjoyable Christmas period together. It is unfortunate that COVID continues to have an impact on our daily lives but we will continue to work together to ensure the safety and well-being of your children as well as to continue to offer the best learning opportunities we can!

Wakefield cases and postponement of events

I have no doubt you will be aware of the surge of cases of the OMICRON variant. The COVID rate for Wakefield is 1272 per 100 000 of the population.



We have therefore made the very difficult decision to cancel the parental events which we have planned between now and February half term. We share your disappointment at having to take this step, but I am sure you will appreciate this is for the protection of everyone and to ensure that we don't have to apply more stringent measures (such as going back to class bubbles etc) during the school day.

The following events will therefore be rescheduled:

- Young Voices Parent Concert on 10th January – this will now take place at 2:30 pm on Monday 7th March
- In school Art gallery, week beginning 10th January – new date to be confirmed
- SEND Parent Forum on Thursday 13th January – this will now take place at 2:30 on Tuesday 1st March
- Y2 Learning Festival on 19th January and Reception Meeting for parents on 19th January – new date to be confirmed
- Grandparents morning on 24th January – this will now take place on 26th April
- Y1 Learning Festival on 3rd February – new date to be confirmed
- 'Men Behaving Dadly' day on 9th February – new date to be confirmed

Wakefield Family Hubs

9 Family Hubs are being created in Wakefield that will work with families with children from pre-birth to 19 years (or 25 years with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)). The existing Children's Centre bases will become 'Family Hubs' and will connect with local community and statutory services to build a comprehensive offer of early help and support for the whole family in each of the six cluster areas in the district.



As such, the LA is keen to engage with parents and carers to understand what support programmes they would like to see available from each of the Family Hub locations, and to identify what services would help the most. They have begun this process with an online survey which we would ask you to complete.

We appreciate you taking the time to do this and the survey can be found via the following link : <https://forms.office.com/r/HHJZCEmpyq>

The online consultation is open until **Friday 28 January 2022**.

Young Voices

The Young Voices team are currently in the process of setting up new concert dates and allocating places to schools. We have not yet been made aware of when the rescheduled concerts will be taking place, but will let you know as soon as we have been provided with this information.

It is important that the children continue to practice their songs and dance moves and that we maintain their levels of enthusiasm about the concert. We will therefore continue with our after school club every Tuesday until 4:30.

School Uniform

The vast majority of our pupils have returned in their correct school uniform and P.E uniform. We have extremely high expectations around our uniform as pupils should be proud to wear it, they are representing the high standards we have in school and it is reflective of their attitudes to school and learning.

We want to support our families and pupils in ensuring that the correct school uniform and P.E uniform is consistently worn. We will therefore be sending home a 'uniform slip' if we notice that this is not the case and we ask that you do what you can to ensure this is followed up on the very next day. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you need additional support with this. Thank you.

Fitness Wednesday, Thursday, Friday - REMINDER

In order to be able to accommodate all our P.E sessions without having to use a potentially wet and muddy field, we have needed to adjust our Fitness Friday timetable for the spring term. These will be as follows:

Tuesday - Reception

Wednesday – Year 1 and 2

Thursday – Year 3 and 4

Friday – Year 5 and 6

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 1T, 2S, 3W, 4W, 5H, 6D

After School Clubs

Parents will be able to book onto the after school clubs for this half term, via MCAS, with effect from 9am on Monday 10th January. All after school clubs, including Young Voices and Year 6 SAT's Booster will start from Tuesday 11th January. Please log into MCAS to see the days of each club. If you have any questions then please contact the school office.



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	Aurora R	3W	Grace G
RBM	Finley-Jack B	4W	Amelia W
1P	Jensen S	4HW	Matilda B
1T	Lucy-Grace G	5H	Mia A
2S	Abigail L	5W	Amelia H
2A	Noah S	6D	George M
3G	Cory C	6W	Lily M

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	91.4	4HW	98.5
RBM	92.0	4W	98.0
1T	99.5	5H	91.3
1P	97.4	5W	97.7
2S	89.5	6D	98.1
2A	96.1	6W	93.0
3G	96.4	Whole School total	95.8
3W	95.7	Cumulative total	95.8

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

January

- 4th – Pupils back to school
- 27th - Holocaust Memorial Day (KS2)

February

- 1st – 2:00, Class Singing Competition
- 14th - Valentines' Disco – 4:30-5:30 Y1-Y3 6:00-7:00 Y4-Y6
- 17th – Spring School Debate
- 18th – Finish for half term
- 28th – Pupils back to school

March

- 1st – 2:30 SEND Forum, 6:00, Easter Bingo
- 3rd – World Book Day (dress up as favourite book character)
- 28th Feb - 7th – Fairtrade Fortnight
- 7th – 2:30 Young Voices Parent concert
- 8th - Masterchef Day (Linked to Fairtrade)
- 9th – 9:15, Y6 Learning Festival and Coffee morning
- 15th – Nursery and Reception Cake Sale, Parents' Evening
- 16th – Parents' Evening
- 30th – 9:15, Y5 Learning Festival and Coffee Morning

April

- 2nd – 1st May – Ramadan
- 5th – 6:00pm, Awards Evening/Festival of Music
- 6th - 9:15-10:30 'Where the Wild Mums Are'
- 8th – Finish for Easter
- 25th – Pupils back to school
- 26th – Grandparents Morning
- 27th-29th – Y5 Residential visit to London

May

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

June

- 6th – Pupils return to school
- 6th-24th – Y4 statutory multiplication check, KS1 statutory phonics screening
- 8th – 9:15 Y3 Learning Festival and Coffee Morning
- 10th – Sports Day and Parents' Picnic Reserve Day

- Y6 residential visit
- 14th – 6:00, Parent Workshop (topic to be confirmed)
- 16th – 9:15, Y2 Learning Festival and Coffee Morning
- 20th – 3:30, Y3 and Y6 Cake Sale
- 24th-25th - Summer camp
- 30th – 9:15am RBM Outdoor Workshop, 2:00pm RB Outdoor Workshop

July

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