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Halfpenny Lane Junior, Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter

Friday 21st May 2021

It's hard to believe it's the end of my first half term at Halfpenny Lane and what a wonderful first half term it has been. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the children and staff as well as some of our families. Next half term promises to be even more exciting as we begin to resume many of our usual curriculum activities and learning opportunities, as well as begin our exciting plans for next year!

Congratulations Mrs Applegarth

We would like to congratulate Mr and Mrs Applegarth on the birth of Olive Rose Applegarth this week. We wish the family well and have no doubt they will enjoy every minute with their new little bundle!

COVID Reminder

Covid 19 is still a very real threat to everyone, even though the vaccines are rapidly being rolled out. We are continuing to follow the guidance from the Department of Education and are still following the stringent risk assessments that were put in place back in September to ensure that all children and staff are safe.

If your child is displaying any of the symptoms below we would ask that you do not send your child into school and call 119 to request a PCR test.

- new continuous cough and/or
- a high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child displays any of these symptoms in school we will contact you to come and collect your child, along with any siblings, and recommend that a test is undertaken. We also ask that you isolate for the recommended time given by the NHS to reduce the spread of the virus. If your child's test is negative and they are well they can return back to school.

Tea Party Thursday 10th June

It's really important to us that we continually recognise and celebrate those pupils who consistently demonstrate the high standards of behaviour we expect at Halfpenny Lane and one of the ways we do this is through the Headteacher's Tea Party. Invitations for the next Tea Party on 10th June are in the post – I wonder who will be attending the next party?

Parents Evening – School Cloud

We hope you found our recent parents' evening useful in informing you of your child's progress and ways in which you can help at home. We would like to thank you for your patience with the few teething problems we had with the School Cloud system. We appreciate that some of you may have not been successful in meeting with the teacher and we would like to request that you get in touch with your child's teacher to arrange an alternative appointment at a mutually convenient time after half term.

Community Library

Halfpenny Lane needs your help! We want to create a Little Library outside our school so that our community can access free children's books. Do you have a bookcase or other storage solution that we could use to keep our books safe and dry? Contact us if you think you could help!

Happy Half Term

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff at Halfpenny Lane for their dedication and hard work this half term. They really are a fantastic team who consistently go the extra mile for all the children! We hope you all have a good break this half term and look forward to seeing all the children back and raring to go on Monday 7th June.



Music Competition

A reminder about our half term music project which we would love as many children to take part in as possible. This is our children's opportunity to be creative, imaginative and have fun in presenting their entry in their very own way. This could be a PowerPoint presentation, a poster, you may create something that represents and showcase their research or, for the more adventurous, you could perform your favourite song and say why you have chosen it.

This competition will run over our half-term holiday at Spring bank, with all completed entries needed to be submitted by **Monday 7th June**. Children can bring their entries into school, share them on Class Dojo or via our school Twitter page or email video entries to admin@halfpenny.patrust.org.uk.

All entries will be judged by members of staff, with the winning entries announced in our Friday newsletter on **Friday 11th June**. There will be a winning entry chosen from each year group and they will receive their prize in school. We cannot wait to see all of your fantastic entries! Have fun researching your chosen artist everyone and good luck!

Prince of Wales Hospice Garden Party



Fitness Friday

We are very excited to be trialling a possible new arrangement for our P.E and Well-being learning, on Friday 11th June.

Pupils will spend half the day on well-being and PSHE activities and the other half on their P.E learning for the week. We would therefore like **all** pupils to come to school in their correct P.E kit on that day.

As this could become a permanent arrangement from September 2021 we would like the timings of the day to reflect how they will be in September, our KS2 pupils will therefore finish school at 3:20 on Friday 11th June.

We anticipate this will be an exciting and busy day which will certainly raise the profile of our well-being curriculum and inspire the pupils to learn more about keeping healthy and well!

Appeal for Frames

We would like to create an 'art gallery' in school to display and celebrate our pupils' amazing art work. We would like to appeal for donations of good quality frames of all shapes and sizes, please, in order to get us started. We will place a box outside the main entrance for any donations to allow us to 'quarantine' before cleaning etc and hope that you are able to support us with this. Thank you.

Out of School Achievements

Congratulations to ED, JG, ID and HG who recently climbed pen-y-ghent (2277ft) and raised over £2000 for the Prince of Wales Hospice. What a very special and generous thing to do in memory of their amazing Auntie! This is an incredibly achievement and we are extremely proud of them!

A huge 'well done' also to Georgia in 4A who recently came 8th out of 40 runners at Pontefract Race Course, completing 2km in 10min52 seconds. What an achievement!

TTRockstars or TTSuperstars?

We are super proud of 5H for achieving 208,849 correct answers on TTRockstars, breaking a school record. All children worked tirelessly, enthusiastically and determinedly to rise up to the challenge given to them by Mr Fay, Miss Hill and Mrs Appleton.



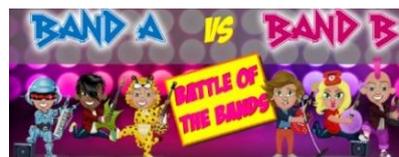
Weekly Challenges

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	Sophie O – 4W	51,209
2nd	Skye D – 4A	27,721
3rd	Samuel W – 4A	27,165



Battle	Winning Class
IT V 1W	1W
2S V 2W	2S
3P V 3G	3P
4A V 4W	4A
5H V 5W	5H
6D V 6W	6W

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, 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	Macie F	3P	Scarlett T
RBM	Isaak A	4A	Reece B
1T	Artuss S	4W	All of the Class
1W	Jessica H	5H	Lauren H
2S	Shay AD	5W	Olivia G
2W	Oscar C	6D	Oliver F
3G	Willow G	6W	Tung Duong L

'Always' Children

Congratulations to last week's children who attended the Headteacher's Tea Party as a reward for their outstanding behaviour:

Class	Child	Class	Child
RB	Lily	3P	Esme
RBM	Everly	4A	Phoenix
1T	Sonny	4W	Eli
1W	Bella	5H	Tai
2S	Charlotte	5W	Millie
2W	Isla	6D	Emme
3G	Roma	6W	Ruby

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	83.33	4A	97.24
RBM	92.28	4W	99.31
1T	95.21	5H	99.32
1W	94.00	5W	97.65
2S	95.88	6D	91.43
2W	94.92	6W	88.93
3G	91.89	Whole School total	94.83
3P	92.41	Cumulative total	96.32

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