



Halfway Nursery Infant News

Monday 3rd March 2025

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This week's updates...

Artist visit

We really enjoyed our visit from local artist James Brunt last week. It was great to see every pupil have the opportunity to work with a real-life artist and create our own piece of unique art as a school.



Congratulations to our land-art competition winners who were:

- Albie (year 1)
- Ayvern (year 1)
- Orfhlaith (year 2)

Each of our winners will receive a special prize this week.

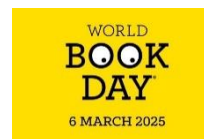
Outdoor Adventure

Our year 1 pupils enjoyed the first trip into our woodland area last week for a number of years! Both classes enjoyed taking part in cloud gazing, mud painting and stories in the woodland.



School Council – Big Spring Clean!

This week our school council and all of those from the Westfield Family of Schools will be taking part in the 'Big Spring Clean'. Our school councillors will be litter picking around school and planting flowers and seed in our flower beds and planters.



Thursday 6th March – World Book Day

On Thursday it is World Book Day!

This day is all about celebrating and promoting the importance of reading. Did you know that:

- ✓ Reading enjoyment has been reported as more important for children's educational success than their family's socio-economic status (OECD, 2002).
- ✓ Evidence suggests that reading for pleasure is an activity that has positive emotional and social consequences (Clark and Rumbold, 2006).

During the day children will be joining in with lots of activities linked to reading, including live author workshops. We have even organised for buddy reading to take place across both schools; children in year 2 will visit nursery to read with our youngest pupils and children in year 6 will be coming to read with our pupils in Foundation Stage 2 and year 1.

On this day we are inviting children to come to school dressed as a character from a story or wearing their pyjamas (no onesies please!). Please make sure your child's outfit and shoes still enable them to play outside.

Don't forget to take part in our Where's Wally World Book Day competition by sharing your photos on Tapestry. Wally will also be hiding around school on the day for children to find! Children will also be bringing home their World Book Day £1 voucher, which can be exchanged for a special World Book Day book at local supermarkets, or used to discount the cost of a book.

Tuesday 11th March and Wednesday 12th March – Parent's Evenings

For January nursery starters and children in Foundation Stage 2 and KS1

You will have received a text informing you of your child's parent's evening appointment. If you need to change your appointment or did not make one and would like an appointment, please contact the school office.

School uniform consultation – closes on Friday 14th March

Last week we shared a letter with you from our governors regarding the potential to link the two Halfway school's uniforms. If you would like to share your opinion on this please follow the link on the letter. This form will close on Friday 14th March.

Red Nose Day - Friday 21st March

On Friday 21st March we will be joining in the celebrations of 40 years of 'Fun'draising by Comic Relief. To help raise money we are inviting children to come to school in/as something fun. You could have crazy hair for the day or wear your clothes backwards or even inside out! Perhaps you can wear the brightest or sparkliest outfit you can put together – whatever makes you happy!

Easter bonnet parade

Our annual Easter bonnet parade for children in Foundation Stage 2 and KS1 will take place on Wednesday 16th April at 2:45pm. Weather permitting, children will parade around the field/ yard wearing their bonnets and families are invited to come to watch. Should the weather not be kind to us, then the event will be cancelled as we do not have enough space inside to hold the event, however, children will still be able to share their bonnets with their friends during the day.

Our nursery Easter bonnet parade will take place in nursery on Tuesday 15th April at 11am and 2:30pm.

Junior School Easter bonnet parade – Thursday 17th April

If you want to go to the Junior School to watch their Easter bonnet parade on Thursday 17th April at 2:45pm, then you are able to collect your nursery/ infant child early should you wish to. We will be allowing families to collect their children early for this reason, from 2:15pm. Nearer the time, we will ask you to indicate if you are planning on collecting your child early via a text form. Please note, early collection is only for those wanting to also go to watch the event at the Junior school. Nursery and school will finish at their normal times for all other children.

Our year 2 art gallery on this day will start from 2pm (as opposed to 2:30pm) to enable those families that also want to go to the Junior school come to see the art gallery before they go to the Junior school. This change of time is for all year 2 families. The art gallery will continue to run until the end of the day should you wish to come to it at 2:30pm as originally planned.

Outstanding balances

We kindly ask that any outstanding balances on your ParentPay account are settled at the end of every month.

If balances are not reduced over the 10 working days after the end of the month your child's participation in the payment event may be withdrawn, e.g. your child's place at a club may be withdrawn or you will be asked to send in a packed lunch rather than purchasing a school lunch. If you use childcare vouchers to pay we understand that there may be a delay in reducing the debts on your account, however please ensure payments are made regularly to keep your account up to date.

If you are having difficulties clearing any outstanding balances or have any queries regarding your account please contact the school office who will be able to provide help and support where needed.

Easter Food vouchers

As part of the Household Support Fund, Sheffield council is planning to provide a £30 food supplement voucher for 34,000 children and young people across the city for the Easter holidays to assist families with rising costs.

Vouchers will be issued directly to families during the w/c 24th March.

If you feel you may qualify for free schools meals, you can apply quickly here:

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/schools-childcare/school-meals>

Alternatively, school can apply on your behalf.

School calendar 2025 – 2026

Please find attached the school calendar for next year, including the 5 INSET days when nursery/ school will be closed. These dates are the same across the Infant and Junior school.

PE DAYS

Please see below for the days when each class will have their PE lessons this half term:

- **Gruffalos and Elmers** ~ Monday (*children come to school in their PE kit*)
- **Rainbow Fish** ~ Tuesday ([Outdoor Adventure](#)) and Thursday
- **Hungry Caterpillars** ~ Wednesday and Thursday ([Outdoor Adventure](#))
- **Enormous Crocodiles** ~ Tuesday and Friday
- **Crafty Chameleons** ~ Wednesday and Friday

Diary dates



- **W/b 3rd March** ~ School Council Big Spring Clean Week
- **Tuesday 4th March** ~ F2 vision screening
- **Thursday 6th March** ~ World Book Day
- **Tuesday 11th March and Wednesday 12th March** ~ Parent's Evenings
- **Friday 14th March** ~ Enormous Crocodiles at gymnastics festival at Westfield
- **Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th March** ~ F2 NHS height and weight screening
- **Friday 21st March** ~ Red Nose Day, RockSteady Concert at 9:30am
- **W/b 24th March** ~ Scholastic Book Fair in school
- **Friday 28th March** ~ INSET day (school and nursery closed to pupils)

Monday 31st March – Friday 11th April ~ Easter holidays (school and nursery closed)

- **Monday 14th April** ~ Nursery stay and play session for Easter starters
- **Tuesday 15th April** ~ Nursery Easter bonnet parade – 11am and 2:30pm, Year 1 art gallery – 2:30pm – 3:10pm
- **Wednesday 16th April** ~ F2 and KS1 Easter bonnet parade – 2:45pm, class photographs
- **Thursday 17th April** ~ Year 2 art gallery – 2pm – 3:10pm

Friday 18th April – Monday 21st April ~ Easter bank holiday weekend (school and nursery closed)

- **Thursday 24th April** ~ HIP group planning session – 9am

Monday 5th May ~ May bank holiday (school and nursery closed)

Phonics screening dates: 9th June – 13th June. Children in year 1 (and those that did not pass it in year 2) will sit the screening check in this week. Please do not book any term-time leave for this week.

More information about upcoming diary dates will be shared with you nearer the time. Some dates are subject to change and any changes will be shared with you on the newsletter.



Halfway Heroes!



Well done to our learners of the week and our attendance winning class!

THE ENORMOUS CROCODILES



Frazer
Millie

CLASS 1

93.9%

The Crafty Chameleons



Ophelia
Poppy

CLASS 2

97.7%

The Rainbow Fish

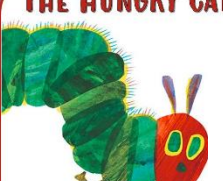


Joey
Taliyah

CLASS 3

95%

THE HUNGRY CATERPILLARS



Lily
Louie

CLASS 4

95.7%

The Gruffalos



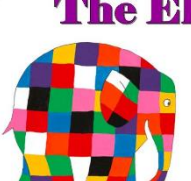
Ali
George

CLASS 5

99.3%

ATTENDANCE WINNERS!

The Elmers



Todi
Arya

CLASS 6

94.6%

Overall school attendance = 96.1%

Parking

To try to ease congestion outside of school, please avoid parking in front of the cones, on our neighbour's driveways or double parking along the road. Where possible, please consider parking a little further away and walking into school.

Free parking is available in the Supertram car park.

Contact us

The main school office is open each day from 8am - 4pm, and the phone will be answered within these hours. Outside of these hours you will have the opportunity to leave an answer phone message, which will be replied to, if necessary, when the office is next open.

Absences

If your child is unable to attend school for any reason, please ring as early as possible on 0114 248 2360. Choose Option 2.