



# Halfway Nursery Infant News

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

Telephone: 0114 2482360

Email: [enquiries@halfway-inf.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@halfway-inf.sheffield.sch.uk)

Website: [www.halfwaynurseryinfantschool.org](http://www.halfwaynurseryinfantschool.org)

## This week's updates...

### **Phonics breakfasts – reminder**

Thank you to the families of children in Foundation Stage 2 who were able to join us last week for our phonics breakfasts. We hope that you enjoyed the morning and found it useful. Didn't the children do well!

This week we are looking forward to welcoming our families of children in year 1.

If you are planning to join us, please make your way straight to the school hall once you have dropped your child off in their classroom. Before children join us in the hall, there will be chance to grab a bite to eat and learn a little bit more about how and why we teach phonics and reading as we do, as well as information about the phonics screening check all children in year 1 will take part in. Around 9:15am children will join us for a phonics lesson, so you can see it action. This will be followed by an opportunity to take part in some phonics and reading activities that you could also do at home with your child. The session will end at 10:15am.

### **Safer Internet Day – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February**

The theme this year is 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'. In school we will continue to promote the safe use of the internet. During the week we will have a special assembly looking at this theme, what a scam is, how to spot it and who to talk to if we are ever worried about something that has happened online.

If you want more information about supporting children to use the internet safely there are lots of websites that can offer support from information about how to report a concern, to how to set up parental controls on different apps and devices. Some are below:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/>

### **Enrichment clubs after half term – reminder**

The deadline to make your bookings for our after-school enrichment clubs is Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 4pm. Please remember, places at clubs are allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.

All clubs will start during the first week back after half term. Please note that the club on a Friday finishes at 4pm.

### **Artist visit and competition!**

To help get our pupils excited about our artist visit, we are running a land art competition. Please see the poster we sent out last week for more information about this. We hope lots of you get involved! Thank you to everyone who has paid a contribution for this visit. If you have not yet paid, the item is on ParentPay.

### **Art Gallery**

You are invited to The Halfway Nursery Infant School 'Our Amazing Art' Gallery!

To showcase the amazing art work that the children have been working on during their art topic, children in Foundation Stage 2 and KS1 will present their masterpieces in an art gallery. The art gallery will be a great opportunity to celebrate how hard the children have worked during their art lessons throughout this half term.

It would be wonderful for your child to talk you through their learning and present their art to you, like a real artist! To enable this to happen, you are able to collect your child from their classroom on the day of their art gallery at 2:30pm and take them to the hall to visit the gallery. Once you have visited the gallery, you are then able to take them home.

We ask that no more than 2 people attend your child's art gallery session, due to fire restrictions and we ask that siblings within school are not collected to visit their sibling's art gallery.

To enable collection for the art gallery to run smoothly, we are asking that you complete a text form that will be sent out to you, to tell us whether you are intending to visit the art gallery so that we know to get your child ready to be collected early.

- **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February** ~ Elmer's art gallery – 2:30pm – 3:10pm
- **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February** ~ Gruffalo's art gallery – 2:30pm – 3:10pm
- **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April** ~ Year 1 art gallery – 2:30pm – 3:10pm
- **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April** ~ Year 2 art gallery – 2:30pm – 3:10pm

### **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day**

We have lots of exciting plans for our children for World Book Day which we will share nearer the time. 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.

### **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Parent's Evenings**

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

A text form to indicate your preferred slot for the upcoming parent's evenings will be shared with you this week. This form will close on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February and we will endeavour to let you know your allocated time slot by the end of that week.

## Outdoor Adventure

We are delighted to share with you that after half term children in Foundation Stage 2 and KS1 will take it in turns to participate in a weekly Outdoor Adventure session, as part of their PE and active learning curriculum. Year 1 will start their Outdoor Adventure sessions after half term and year 2 will start theirs after Easter. Children in Foundation Stage 2 will see Outdoor Adventure becoming part of their outdoor provision.

### The benefits of outdoor learning

Outdoor Adventure sessions aim to enhance a child's ability to function in various social situations by offering diverse experiences and opportunities. Outdoor Adventure can have a positive, lasting impact on a child's attitude toward themselves and their self-belief. When children believe they have something to contribute, they become more active in learning and contribute more to the educational process. Engagement and positive attitudes toward learning lead to greater success in adulthood.

### Outdoor Adventure sessions

These sessions will be run in our small school woodland and school field, and led by our teaching staff. Some members of our teaching staff have received the Forest School Level 1 training which supports us with this exciting development and addition to our curriculum and school offer.

Sessions have been coherently planned to give pupils a wide range of opportunities to experience different activities in the outside space. Activities they will join in with include:

- cloud gazing
- creating journey sticks
- making potions and pies
- joining in with an alfresco orchestra

A thorough risk assessment has been conducted of the area, and a daily risk assessment will be conducted by staff to ensure the space is suitable to visit. We will aim to run our Outdoor Adventure sessions in most types of weather, however, staff will conduct ongoing risk assessments based on the weather (e.g. too wet, icy, hot etc.) and may need to change plans during the day.

### What will my child need?

Children will need wellington boots (please write your child's name in these). These can be brought in and left in school for the half term, or brought in daily for the sessions.

Children will need a suitable coat, including hat, gloves or sunhat (weather dependent).

School will provide each child with a pair of waterproof trousers to wear for their session, however, families are welcome to send in their own should they wish.

- **Rainbow Fish** ~ Outdoor Adventure session on a Tuesday
- **Hungry Caterpillars** ~ Outdoor Adventure session on a Thursday

If you have any further questions about these sessions, please speak with your child's class teacher.

## PE DAYS - changes after half term

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

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

## Diary dates



- **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February** ~ Hungry Caterpillars phonics breakfast, Safer Internet Day
- **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February** ~ Rainbow Fish phonics breakfast
- **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February** ~ After-school enrichment club booking deadline
- **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February** ~ Rainbow Fish sporting trip to Westfield

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February** ~ Half term (school and nursery closed)

- **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February** ~ History van visit to school for year 2 (*payment item on ParentPay*) – *rearranged date*
- **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February** ~ James Brunt land artist working with all children in school (*payment item on ParentPay*)
- **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February** ~ Elmer's art gallery – 2:30pm – 3:10pm
- **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February** ~ Gruffalo's art gallery – 2:30pm – 3:10pm
- **W/b 3<sup>rd</sup> March** ~ School Council Big Spring Clean Week
- **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March** ~ F2 vision screening
- **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March** ~ World Book Day
- **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March** ~ Parent's Evenings
- **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March** ~ F2 NHS height and weight screening
- **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March** ~ Red Nose Day
- **W/b 24<sup>th</sup> March** ~ Scholastic Book Fair in school
- **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March** ~ INSET day (school and nursery closed to pupils)

**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April** ~ Easter holidays (school and nursery closed)

- **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April** ~ Year 1 art gallery – 2:30pm – 3:10pm
- **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April** ~ Class photographs
- **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April** ~ Year 2 art gallery – 2:30pm – 3:10pm

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.

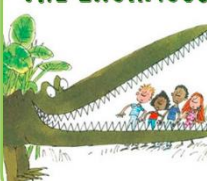


## Halfway Heroes!



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

**THE ENORMOUS CROCODILES**



Amelia  
Evie

CLASS 1

90.9%

**The Crafty Chameleons**



Ava G  
Kayden

CLASS 2

96.4%

**The Rainbow Fish**



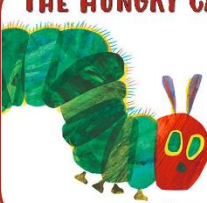
Adalia  
Annabel

CLASS 3

98.5%

ATTENDANCE WINNERS!

**THE HUNGRY CATERPILLARS**

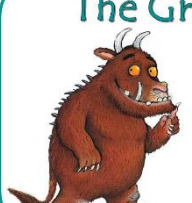


Georgie  
Madison

CLASS 4

97.1%

**The Gruffalos**



Maya  
Freddie

CLASS 5

91.1%

**The Elmers**



Loui  
Mason

CLASS 6

89.6%

Overall school attendance = 93.5%

### 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.