



Halfway Nursery Infant News

Monday 9th September 2024

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This week's updates...

Welcome

This week we are thrilled to welcome our new starters joining us in Nursery and in Reception. We are looking forward to getting to know each and every one of you and your families.

New routines

Thank you to everyone for remembering our new school times and arriving promptly in the morning to start. This has meant that our children are able to get settled and straight into their first lesson quickly.

For clarification, Reception and KS1 classroom doors open at 8:40am with the first lesson (phonics) starting promptly at 8:55am. Teachers will save registers at 8:55am. Anyone arriving after this time will need to come to the main office for registration and will be marked as late. Anyone arriving after 9:10am will receive an unauthorised absence mark for the morning session.

Nursery staff will open their doors at 8:30am. Once the doors are closed, you will need to ring the bell and wait for a staff member to open the door. At times you may have to wait a little bit for this as staff are busy looking after the children. Where possible, we ask that you arrive promptly and do not try to collect your child early to avoid disruption.

Reading books

This week, children in KS1 will start their phonics programme again. All children will receive daily phonics sessions and 3 reading sessions per week. This year all children will have their reading sessions between Monday and Wednesday. Reading books will be sent home each Wednesday and we ask that they are returned to school the following Wednesday, apart from children who are accessing the fluency programme, where books are changed fortnightly. We kindly ask that you look after your child's reading book and return it to us in good condition and on-time, so that other children can enjoy the book. Should you lose your child's book we ask that you contribute towards the cost of a new one.

Diary Dates

Please check the diary dates on the last page as we will update these each week as necessary.

Job vacancies

Halfway Infants is currently advertising for a new full-time caretaker and Halfway Juniors is advertising for a part-time cleaner. Both job descriptions and personal specifications will be published on the council and DFE websites over the coming days.

PE

Thank you to families of children in year 1 and year 2 for sending in PE kits. Children in year 1 started their PE lessons last Friday and coped very well with getting changed independently. They also looked super smart as a group in their kits. As a reminder, PE kits can live in school for the whole half term. Alternatively, you are welcome to bring them in weekly, or even on the days of the sessions if you would prefer.

PE days will change every half term, so that all classes get to have lessons with Jess, our brilliant dance coach. Please see below for the days when each class will have its PE lessons this half term:

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

Enrichment and after school clubs

This week you will receive further information about our enrichment after school clubs for this half term, and how to express your interest in these.

Unfortunately, due to a low number of children interested in the coding club, moving forwards it is looking like Jam Coding will be unable to run this club. Should your child be interested in this club, please sign up using the attached flyer. The club will go ahead this Tuesday as planned.

On Fridays we host RockSteady, an in-school enrichment activity where children can learn to play instruments or sing as part of a rock band. If you would like your child to take part, then please follow the instructions on the flyer attached.

Staff news

Congratulations to Miss White who had baby Koa last week. Everyone is doing well and settling into new routines.

ASDA Rewards

If you shop at ASDA, then please choose our school! Any money raised will be incredibly useful in helping to improve our school.

Curriculum maps

Last week you will have received your child's curriculum map for this half term. Please use this to support your child's learning at home.



Parking

Please do not park in front of our neighbours drives as they need access to them at all times. Please also be mindful of where you do park, to ensure you have not blocked in anyone and have allowed enough space for other cars to pass you. **Free parking is available in the Supertram car park.**

ParentPay and Superkids after-school wrap-around care club

We just wanted to keep you informed about ParentPay. Unfortunately, the ParentPay system won't update until we have admitted all the children who will be starting with us in school and at Nursery this September. We are expecting the admittance process to be completed by the end of this week, so it should be possible for you to view the Superkids sessions (for up until October half-term) at the beginning of next week.

Superkids is particularly busy at present with pre-booked sessions, so If your child doesn't need to use a session for whatever reason, please cancel it so that other children have the opportunity to book. Any sessions which aren't cancelled in advance and aren't used will still be charged for.

Diary dates



- **Monday 9th - Wednesday 11th** ~ Nursery stay and play sessions.
- **Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th** ~ F2 half day visits.
- **Wednesday 11th** ~ F2 cohort first day.
- **Tuesday 1st October** ~ Individual photographs.
- **Wednesday 2nd October** ~ Y2 trip to Sheffield city centre ([further information to follow](#))
- **Tuesday 15th October and Wednesday 16th October** ~ F2 and KS1 parent's evenings.
- **Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November** ~ Half term
- **Monday 4th November** ~ INSET day (Nursery and school closed)

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Halfway Heroes!



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

THE ENORMOUS CROCODILES



Cooper
Evelyn

CLASS 1

90.6%

The Crafty Chameleons




Scarlett
Poppy

CLASS 2

91.3%

ATTENDANCE WINNERS!


The Rainbow Fish




Annabel
Henry

CLASS 3

100%



THE HUNGRY CATERpillars



Lily
Jax

CLASS 4

90.2%

Overall school attendance = 92.8%

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.