



Halfway Nursery Infant News

Monday 7th October 2024

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Website: www.halfwaynurseryinfantschool.org

This week's updates...

Free School Meals and Half term food vouchers

Did you know that you may be entitled to free school meals if you receive any of these benefits:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income related Employment Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit as long as you have a yearly household income of less than £16,190 (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs) and do not get Working Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

Applying for free school meals for your child means that they will be entitled to free school lunches once their free infant school lunch entitlement ends (after year 2). It also means that they qualify for free milk and families are entitled to holiday food vouchers which can be used in 11 different supermarkets to reduce food bills. School also receives additional funding for children entitled to free school meals which can help to improve our offer and provision.

If you think you may qualify for free school meals you can apply here:

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

As part of the Household Support Fund, Sheffield Council will be providing a £15 food supplement voucher for 35,000 children and young people across the city for the October half-term holidays to assist families with rising costs.

Vouchers will be issued via letter directly to families w/c 21st October. The letter will include the website link for Edenred (the supplier of vouchers) and clear instructions on how to download the voucher.

Any child/young person that becomes eligible between 7th October and 27th October 2024 will be sent a food voucher letter w/c 4th November 2024.

HIP Group

Our HIP group (Halfway Infant Parent Group) are looking for new volunteers to join them to help to make a difference to our school. If this is something you are interested in, please see the attached poster inviting you to a welcome meeting on 11th October to find out more.

Year 1 and Year 2 Wellbeing afternoons

We are looking forward to seeing those parents who can join us for our year 1 and year 2 wellbeing afternoons this week, which we hope will promote positive mental health, introduce families to our Zones of Regulation work and give you an opportunity to come into school to spend time with your children. As a reminder:

- **Year 2 on Tuesday 8th October 1.20pm - 3pm**
- **Year 1 on Wednesday 9th October 1.20pm - 3pm**

During the first part of the afternoon you and your child will take part in a mindfulness craft activity in their classroom (which they will be able to take home) followed by the opportunity to see one of our carpet time discussions in action about our new Zones of Regulation.

We will then be taking parents/ carers up to the hall for hot drinks and biscuits (and there may be a little treat you can take home as well!) as the children tidy up and prepare for home time. We hope this gives you some time to talk to each other as fellow parents, as well as think about how the Zones of Regulation may be able to support your child outside of school.

Unfortunately due to the lack of space in our classrooms, we ask that only one adult attends the afternoon per child. For the same reason younger siblings and pushchairs will not be able to join us on this occasion.

Please do not worry if you are not able to attend, your children will still join in with the activities and will be supported by a grown up in school.

For the craft activity we would be grateful for any donations of small, clean drinks bottles.

Thursday 10th October - World Mental Health Day

Hello Yellow!

We are joining many schools and communities across the UK this year and brightening up World Mental Health Day by wearing yellow! The world can be a really tough place to grow up in, and the children (and adults!) at Halfway Nursery and Infants are invited to wear something yellow to show young people that they are not alone with their mental health.

A voluntary donation can be made to Young Minds via the link below, however this is not compulsory. We can't wait to turn the school yellow for the day!

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/support-us/donate/>

Parent's Evenings

Our first set of parent's evenings will take place on the 15th and 16th October. These are for children in Foundation 2, year 1, year 2 and nursery children who started in January or Easter (children who started in September will be invited for a parent's evening later on in the year). You will have received a text form to indicate a preferred time slot and you will find out your appointment time on Wednesday 9th October. This text form has now closed. Therefore, if you want to make an appointment or change your appointment you will need to ring the school office.

Diary Dates

Attached to the newsletter are our Christmas Diary Dates. We have shared these early to give you as much notice as possible. More information about the events and how to request tickets for ticketed events will be shared nearer the time. We will continue to update this list and share with you any changes.

Autumn Disco!

We are excited to share with you our Autumn disco dates!

- **Monday 11th November ~ F2 ~ 3.15pm - 4pm and 4.15pm - 5pm**
- **Monday 18th November ~ KS1 (Year 1 and Year 2) ~ 3.15pm - 4pm and 4.15pm - 5pm**

Each disco will be limited in capacity, but there will be enough capacity for all children who want to attend over the two discos. Tickets will cost £3. More information about how to buy a ticket will be shared nearer the time.

Special message from Mrs Tatham and Mr Beazer

We would both like to send a big thank you for all the kind messages and gifts we received during our final days at school. We were really touched by the sentiments. We shall miss everyone at Halfway Nursery Infants very much: it is a very special place.

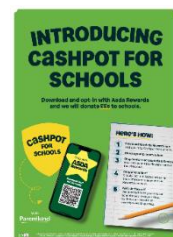
We are leaving you in the extremely capable hands of Mrs Bird, Miss Markell and Mrs Clayton who are looking forward to getting to know you all.

Thank you again for your support and kindness over the years.

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.



School/ Nursery applications reminder

Applying for a Nursery place for January 2025 - reminder

The deadline to apply for a nursery place for January 2025 at our nursery is Friday 18th October. If you would like to come to look around our nursery, please contact the school office to book in for a tour on one of the following days:

- Tuesday 8th October at 3:45pm
- Thursday 7th November at 3:45pm
- Thursday 14th November at 3:45pm

Applying for a reception place for September 2025 - reminder

If your child was born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021 you can now apply for their school place. You can do this online at: www.sheffield.gov.uk/schools-childcare

If you would like to come to look around our school, please contact the school office to book in for a tour on one of the following days:

- Monday 7th October at 3:45pm
- Thursday 10th October at 3:45pm
- Tuesday 12th November at 3:45pm

Applying for a year 3 place for September 2025 - reminder

Children in year 2 will need to apply for a year 3 place for September 2025. If you live in Sheffield, you can do this online at: <https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/schools-childcare/apply-school-place>

Please see below for information about the upcoming open evening:



Halfway Junior School
Year 3 Open Evening
19th November 2024
4:45pm -5:45pm

- Take a tour around our school
- Find out about our curriculum and school approaches
- Meet the Leadership Team
- Find out about transition arrangements
- Ask your questions and find out more

Diary dates



- **Tuesday 8th October** ~ Year 2 parents wellbeing afternoon 1:20pm – 3:10pm
- **Wednesday 9th October** ~ Year 1 parents wellbeing afternoon 1:20pm – 3:10pm
- **Thursday 10th October** ~ World Mental Health Day – wear something yellow
- **Tuesday 15th October and Wednesday 16th October** ~ Parent's evenings
- **Friday 18th October** ~ Show racism the red card – wear something red
- **Friday 18th October** ~ Food Bank Collection (joint with Halfway Junior School)
- **Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November** ~ Half term
- **Monday 4th November** ~ INSET day (Nursery and school closed)
- **Monday 11th November** ~ **F2 Autumn Disco** ~ 3.15pm - 4pm and 4.15pm - 5pm
- **Tuesday 12th November** ~ Odd Socks Days (for anti-bullying week)
- **Friday 15th November** ~ Children In Need
- **Monday 18th November** ~ **KS1 Autumn Disco** ~ 3.15pm - 4pm and 4.15pm - 5pm

Parking

We are trying to ease congestion outside the school by placing cones in locations that can cause difficulties for the flow of traffic when blocked. Where possible, please consider parking a little further away and walking into school.

Free parking is available in the Supertram car park.

PE DAYS reminder

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** ~ Wednesday and Friday
- **Hungry Caterpillars** ~ Tuesday and Friday
- **Enormous Crocodiles** ~ Tuesday and Thursday
- **Crafty Chameleons** ~ Wednesday and Thursday

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.



Halfway Heroes!



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

THE ENORMOUS CROCODILES



Evie
Indy

CLASS 1

94.1%

The Crafty Chameleons



Owen
Marshall

CLASS 2

96.2%

The Rainbow Fish



Sophie
Rory

CLASS 3

95.4%

THE HUNGRY CATERpillARS



Effe
Ayvern

CLASS 4

95.2%

The Gruffalos




Isabella
Jack

CLASS 5

96%

The Elmers



Sofia D
Mason

CLASS 6

97%

ATTENDANCE WINNERS!

Overall school attendance = 95.7%



Time to start School?

If your child was born between
1st September 2020 and
31st August 2021, you need to apply
for their school place.

Save Time - Apply Online at
www.sheffield.gov.uk/schools-childcare

Closing date for applying 15th January 2025

Pupil Admissions can be contacted on
0114 273 5766

It is your responsibility to apply for a school place. Missing the closing date will mean less chance of obtaining a place at your preferred school(s).

