



19th February 2024

Half Term Core Value



Dear Parents and Families,

A warm welcome to the new term. We've snowdrops raising their heads and blossom on the trees this morning; the warmer weather can't be too far away!

We begin this week with the introduction of our new value- I am collaborative- exploring the difference between working as a group and as a team. We will explore the ideas of contribution, leadership, communication, reliance and responsibility as we work collaboratively over the next few weeks, learning both to lead and be led. Our 'Create' topics focus on DT, creating something, for someone, with some purpose. Look out for our curriculum newsletters this week for more information

Halfway Heroes

At the end of last half term, we celebrated our Halfway Heroes for our core value 'I am respectful'. Our winners were:

Y3CL - Neia A
Y3GM - Daisy K
Y4KW - April M
Y4MO - Amelia W

Y5GL - Max S
Y5GO - Isaac H
Y6JO - Athena C-R
Y6LW/LH - Zach F



Change to Dessert Menu – Thursday 22nd February

On Thursday there is a change to the Dessert Menu to celebrate Valentines Day, this will either be a shortbread or chocolate muffin.

Newsletters and Knowledge Organisers

This half term's Curriculum Newsletters and Knowledge Organisers will be shared with you on Friday. Please do spend some time reading them so that you know what your child will be learning this half term.

Art Competition – Sheffield Young Artists

Across Sheffield all schools are taking part in an Art competition and the winning art pieces will have theirs displayed in a real art gallery for the public to see. All artwork must be on paper, canvas or thin card. There is no specific theme, so any subject is acceptable.

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There are 3 categories:

Painting - powder paint, acrylic paint, watercolours

Drawing - using pencil or pen

Mixed media - this is using a variety of media such as paint and oil pastels, collage and felt tips, pencil, crayon and paint.

Deadline for all artwork to be completed and handed in is Friday 23rd February 2024. These need handing into the office where an entry label will be stuck on to the back. Mr Walker and Miss Lund will then choose the top 10 from each category to be put forward to the Sheffield Young Artist competition.

Any successful entries will then be displayed at Central Reformed Church, Norfolk Street, Sheffield on the 26th and 27th April.

Good luck and get creative! If you require any further information please feel free to come ask me.

Miss Lund



PE Days – from after February half term (please check if your child's PE slot has changed)

Y3 CL = Monday and Friday	Y5 GO = Monday and Thursday
Y3 GM = Tuesday and Wednesday	Y5 GL = Monday and Tuesday
Y4 KW = Tuesday and Wednesday	Y6 LW/LH = Friday
Y4 MO = Tuesday and Thursday	Y6 JO = Thursday

Book Fair Wednesday 28th – Monday 4th March

We are really excited to welcome the Book Fair to school for 4 days from Wednesday 28th February to Monday 4th March. The book fair will be located outside the Y6 classrooms and will be open from 3.10pm-4pm. Please come in to look at the books on offer through the main entrance. There are lots of ways in which you can buy books. You can

pay easily and securely by using an online payment link at

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay> and simply selecting Halfway Junior School from the drop-down menu or by scanning the QR code which will be on display. If you are unable to pay online, you will also be able to pay in cash.

Your child will be bringing home their World Book day voucher and a 'wish list'.

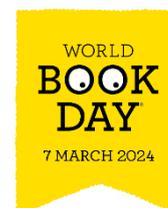
You can use the World Book Day voucher to get £1 off the cost of any book

costing £2.99 or more. If you are unable to visit the Book Fair, you can complete the 'wish list' and pay for the chosen books using our online payment system. Wish lists then need returning to school, so we know which books you have ordered and we will send them home with your child.

School receives a small proportion of money for each book sold, which we can then use to buy books for our classrooms and library.

World Book Day – Thursday 7th March 2023 – Theme 'Reading your Way'

We are inviting everyone to come to school dressed as their favourite comic book character for the day. As always, we do not expect you to buy anything new and we love to see your home-made costumes. During the day, there will be tasks and teaching geared around fiction and characterisation, and lots of fun to be had!



Winter Weather Alerts

In the event of winter weather conditions our main concern is your child's safety, particularly their arrival at school and at the end of the day. In the unlikely event school has to be closed, parents will be notified by text message as early as possible. We will also send alerts via Sheffield City Council's Twitter account @SheffCouncil and there will be a school closure announcement on BBC Radio Sheffield. We hope this

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information will allow parents to plan accordingly as extra time may be needed for the journey into school. This will also be the case should school need to close early due to the weather.

In the event of school closing early, children will only be allowed to walk home on their own should we receive permission from their parent once the decision has been made to close school early. This applies to all children, including those who normally walk home on their own. Please ensure you contact school promptly should you wish your child to walk home at the time of closure, rather than the end of the school day.

Dinner Debts

Please take some time this week to check if you have any outstanding amounts on you ParentPay account. **If you have a dinner debt of £20 or over, please provide your child with a packed lunch until the debt is cleared.**

Easter Egg Competition

It is nearly the time of year again when we are amazed by the creativity of our children through our Easter egg competition where we ask you to get creative to turn an egg into something egg-stra special! A winner will be chosen from each year group. Entries can be brought into school from Monday 18th March, with the last date for them to be brought into school for judging on Friday 22nd. Winners will be announced in assembly on Monday 25th. Please make sure all entries are clearly labelled with your child's full name and class. See below for some ideas to get you started...



Diary & calendar dates

We will be populating our yearly calendar dates as the term goes on so please keep checking for key dates

Wednesday 28 th February	Book Fair (lasting until Monday 4 th March)
Tuesday 5 th March	Choir singing at Crystal Peaks
Monday 4 th March	Launch of the Easter Egg Competition
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day – dressing up
Thursday 14 th March	Y3 Trip to Magna
Friday 15 th March	Red Nose Day
Monday 18 th March	Road Safety Week
Friday 22 nd March	Easter Egg Competition Judging
Tuesday 26 th March	Rocksteady Easter Concert 10-11am
Tuesday 26 th March	Parent Consultation Evening
Wednesday 27 th March	Parent Consultation Evening
Wednesday 27 th March	Mad Hatters Tea Party at Rose Cottage for Y3 in choir

Easter School Holiday: Friday 29th March- Friday 12th April

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Monday 15th April SCHOOL RE-OPENS

Kind regards,
Peter Walker & Debbie Shepherd



Attendance - Whole school target = 97%

Top 3 classes:

1st = Y4KW - 100.0%

2nd = Y5GL - 98.6%

3rd = Y3GM - 98.4%