

Half Acres Primary Academy

Newsletter January 2019

Welcome back to school for what will be a busy Spring term. I would like to say a huge thank you for your generosity over the Christmas period. Not only did your donations of chocolate support our end of term raffle, but your purchases of tickets enabled us to raise £378.00 which contributed to buying every child a book. Donations of food for the Christmas parties were also very generous and ensured the children enjoyed party food for several days!

FORTHCOMING DATES & EVENTS

Friday 18th January

Year 6 Parent Consultations

Monday 21st January

Year 6 Parent Consultations continue

Thursday 14th February

Parent Consultations for the rest of school

Thursday 14th February

Break up for half term

Friday 15th February

INSET DAY

Monday 25th February

Return to school

ATTENDANCE UPDATE

The whole school attendance target is **97%**. Please support us by ensuring children arrive on time and stay in school all day.

Please be advised that we do not authorise term time holidays except in exceptional extenuating circumstances. Holidays taken in term time may incur penalties for families.

Class attendance since September 2018 - 95.35%			
Nursery AM	94.8%	Nursery PM	93.2%
EY2F	92.7%	2S	96.5%
EY2M	91.5%	3C	95.7%
1N	95.0%	4MO	97.3%
1RA	95.3%	5A	96.9%
2M	97.0%	6B	95.2%

PUNCTUALITY REMINDER

Again there has recently been a significant rise in the number of pupils arriving late into school. It is important pupils arrive on time in order that they do not miss learning and that they learn good habits for life. Doors open in Nursery at 8.40am and across the rest of school at 8.50am, and remaining open for ten minutes. Those pupils arriving after this are marked as late within the next ten minutes. If your child has ten lates they will be referred to the EWO and fines may be incurred.

ATTENDANCE FACT

Regular attendance at school is vital to help children achieve and get the best possible start in life. 90% of young people with absence rates below 85% fail to achieve five or more good grades of GCSE and around one third achieve no GCSEs at all. GCSEs may seem a long way off for you and your child but all absences at any stage lead to gaps in your child's learning.

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

We had a great turn out for the Christmas Jumper Day and helped get everyone into the festive mood. We managed to raise £144.30 for Save the Children, thank you once more for your donation, we really do appreciate it.

YOUNG VOICES

Children from Year 4 and Year 5 attended the Young Voices event at Sheffield Arena on Thursday 10th January. What a fantastic event this was, the children and staff sang with Tony Hadley - wow! The children who attended the concert were a credit to the school.

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Spring term parent consultations, scheduled for Thursday 14th February are approaching. This will be an opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress since the initial meeting in October. Further details will follow very soon.

RESIDENTIAL VISITS

A reminder to parents of pupils in Years 4 and 5 that deadlines for payment are due in the next few weeks. These are:-

Low Mill: To be paid in full by **15th February 2019**

York: To be paid in full by **5th April 2019**

Please see the office if you have any queries.

DOGS ON SCHOOL PREMISES

Please can we remind parent/carers dogs are not permitted on the school grounds. We hope we can rely on your co-operation in this matter. Please also pass this message onto anybody who collects your child from school.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

We have been informed by Tesco that they will no longer be taking orders for school uniforms from 11th February 2019. Half Acres Academy are very happy to support a local business 'Better and Bright' (they are based in Castleford indoor market), who will be the only supplier of Half Acres Academy embroidered logo clothing and book bags. It is not a requirement that children wear uniform with the school logo on, but they must adhere to the uniform policy that can be found on our website.

