

Half Acres Primary Academy

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Acting Headteacher: **Miss J Rowell**

Part of the Inspire Partnership Multi Academy Trust



22nd October 2021

Dear Parents and carers,

I would like to thank you for all of your support this half term. Although we are still remaining mindful about helping each other to stay safe and healthy, we have been pleased to be able to return to a more normal school day since September.

Parent/carer consultations

Thank you to all parents and carers for taking the time to speak to your child's class teacher this week. We hope you found these conversations valuable for supporting your child's education.

School Council



After the half term break we will be electing new school councillors from all classes in Years 1 to 6. This is an important role that allows the pupils to work with the staff and governors to share and action ideas that will continue to improve our school.

What does a school councillor do?

- Attend school council meetings
- Takes ideas and suggestions their class has to discuss at School Council meetings
- Discusses and shares ideas, information and suggestions at School Council meetings
- Brings back ideas, information and suggestions to the class

What makes a good School Councillor?

- Confident speaking skills and excellent listening skills.
- Enjoy teamwork.
- Open to new ideas.
- Be responsible.
- Work hard to get things done.
- Willing to have a go

School councillors are voted in through a democratic class ballot that will be held in class during the first week back. We are asking any children in Years 1 to 6 who are interested in representing their class, to prepare a poster or a speech during half-term. This will then be shared with their class.

The poster/speech could include information about your child as well as qualities that would make them a good leader. We look forward to listening to all of the children who would like to take part in this exciting opportunity.

Children In Need



The school will be supporting Children in Need on Friday 19th November. For a small donation, the children and staff can wear yellow or spotty t-shirts / tops or Children in Need t-shirts with their normal school trousers/skirts/shorts. Due to COVID-19, windows and doors

will be kept open in classrooms, so please ensure your child has a school jumper/cardigan on the day. We can accept cash donations and staff will have a collection box parents can drop money in. For Years 5 and 6, children can bring money in and drop it their class coin collection box. Thank you for your support.

Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Week

**ANTI-BULLYING
WEEK 2021**

15th and 19th November

As a school, we are committed to supporting the emotional health and wellbeing of our pupils. As part of this, we will be taking part in Anti-Bullying Week 2021 and the theme '*One Kind Word*', emphasising the positive impact a small gesture or comment can have on someone else's day. On Monday 15th and Friday 19th November (also Children in Need day) we will mark the importance of supporting this week and raising awareness of bullying by wearing odd socks. Odd Socks Day is designed to be fun! It's an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique!

Please note, we are not asking for any cash donations; but if you would like to donate to the cause please visit: www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk for more information.

Celebrating Castleford

Pupils from across Key Stage 2 were very honoured to be chosen to represent school at the 'Reimagining Castleford' project which was held in the Carlton Lanes Shopping Centre. During the session, the children shared several ideas about how they would like Castleford to be in the future. Some of their ideas included having rowing boats near the river, riverside bars and restaurants, an outdoor cinema and a trampoline park. We are all so very proud of our children and our heritage.



Castleford Library

This week, children from Year 1 enjoyed visiting Castleford Library. The children enjoyed learning about the library and meeting a local author. We are proud of how the children represented our school.

Castleford Library is a free service and children can loan up to 12 books at a time once they have become a member. Please do make use of this service if you feel it would benefit your child / family and continue to promote a love of reading out of school.

Student Information Group

Please can we remind you to return your student information packs as soon as possible. It is important that the office have this information so that our records can be updated.

Return Date Reminder

We return to school on Monday 1st November, following the half term break. Please remember that the clocks change (go back 1 hour) on Sunday 31st October.

School Dinners Theme Day

Following the success of the space themed lunch menu, please look out for a Bonfire themed menu on November 5th.

Attendance

We are pleased to share the weekly attendance for each class:

Class	% Attendance this Week
Nursery am	83.53%
Nursery pm	92.73%
YRM	96.58%
YRN	94.74%
1K	94.40%
1W	87.50%
2C	96.67%
2S	97.79% 😊
3AB	91.48%
3M	98.62% 🌟 😊
4Mc	93.26%
5BW	84.49%
5R	95.96%
6O	99.02% 🌟 😊
Whole School	95.06%

We have three classes this week who have achieved our target percentage of 97% 😊 - well done! A special CONGRATULATIONS to Class 3M 🌟 who have the highest percentage this week. Also CONGRATULATIONS to the pupils in 6O. Although this class has been bubbled due to Covid, the pupils who have been able to attend have achieved a high percentage this week.

Come and join the Team - Job Vacancies



As our pupil numbers are continuing to grow, we are looking to appoint new staff to join our ever expanding Half Acres team. The positions we are currently advertising are Lunchtime Supervisor, 2 Teaching Assistants and a Behaviour and Attendance Officer to support children across the school. The closing date for all vacancies is Thursday 4th November. If you, or someone you know, may be interested in joining our friendly school and Trust, please see the school website for further information. We look forward to hearing from you.

Twitter



Please follow our Twitter page on @IPMATHalf_Acres or https://twitter.com/IPMATHalf_Acres to see school updates. We also celebrate our Star of the Week and Class Dojo Champion winners on this each week.

I would like to wish you an enjoyable and safe half term break.

Kind regards,

Miss J Rowell
Acting Headteacher