

Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

### Thank You

As we reach the last day of the half term, I would like to say a big **thank you** to you all for making my first few months at Halebank so special. I am suitably proud of this wonderful school and there have been even more magic moments this week:

- The children led this morning's Harvest celebrations superbly and it was fantastic to see so many of you joining us. Your contributions were gratefully received by the Widnes Foodbank and will make a real difference to local families.
- Equally, your kind donations for our 'Lifesavers' day will help fund a new defibrillator; this is another demonstration of the school working together to contribute positively to the wider community. The children's costumes were amazing!
- Pupils in Class 3 have been learning about healthy choices and this included both a visit from the school nurse for a 'Keeping Healthy' workshop and an opportunity to prepare a picnic for the children in Class 2. A great time was had by all and the children even prepared a fruit, vegetable and sandwich platter for me! Check the school's **Twitter** feed for the latest photos: [https://twitter.com/halebank\\_sch](https://twitter.com/halebank_sch)



### STARS OF THE WEEK

Class 1	<b>Stanley:</b> for always trying his best 😊
Class 2	<b>Ben:</b> for excellent reading
Class 3	<b>Harry:</b> for working hard and trying his best
Class 4	<b>Sophie:</b> for working hard and using her initiative

### Parents' Afternoon/Evening: Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> November

We will be running the first Parents' Afternoon/Evening of the year soon after the half term break. Appointments will be available for you to meet with your child's class teacher to discuss their progress so far through the year. Appointments will run from 1.30 pm until 6.00 pm; these can be booked by seeing Mrs Fenlon in the school office from Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> November.

### ATTENDANCE HEROES



Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Whole School
94.5%	<b>98.8%</b>	94.0%	86.4%	93.4%



Well done to **Class 2** for having the best attendance this week; another week close to 100%. Not only have our Year 2 pupils won the Attendance Cup, they have also earned the first non-uniform day. This will take place on the first day after half term (4<sup>th</sup> November). Well done!



**4<sup>th</sup> November:** School re-opens for the new half term

**4<sup>th</sup> November:** *Non-uniform day for Class 2*

**11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> November:** *Anti-Bullying Week*

**12<sup>th</sup> November** 1.30 – 6.00 pm: *Parents' Afternoon/Evening*

**15<sup>th</sup> November:** Children in Need

### Morning Routine

We will be trialling a slightly different start to the morning routine after half term. Mrs Potter and I will unlock the school gates at **8.40 am**. At this time, the classroom doors will be open so the children can come straight inside rather than waiting outside. We hope that this will reduce congestion both in the cloakrooms and corridors, and also out on the roads in front of school. It will also allow a little more time for the children to get settled in their classrooms and started on their early morning tasks. Breakfast club will continue to run from 8.15 am until 8.40 am for those families who prefer an earlier start. As the mornings are becoming colder and darker, we hope that these small changes will mean less waiting around for everyone. I will continue to be around on the playground in the mornings if you need to have a chat about anything... or if you just want to say hello.

### Classes 2 and 4

After much consideration, we have decided that it will benefit the children if we have our 2 'infant' and 'junior' classes next door to one another. This means that from the start of the new half term, Classes 2 and 4 will be swapping rooms. Please bear this in mind when dropping off and collecting your child after half term.



### Staying Safe

With Halloween and Bonfire Night just around the corner, I would ask that you spend some time talking to your child about staying safe at this time of year. Cheshire Police are urging potential trick or treaters to enjoy their celebrations safely. Their poster campaign urges people planning to go out trick or treating to be 'polite on Halloween night'. Similarly, Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service offers schools and parents top tips to share with children to keep them safe on Bonfire Night. Further details can be found online.

### End of Half Term

School closes today for the half term break; staff will be in school tomorrow for a training day. School re-opens on **Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> November**. Thanks again for your support this half term; it is very much appreciated. I look forward to seeing you next half term.

Yours sincerely

*Richard Harley*

Mr R Harley