Halfmerke Primary School

December Newsletter

**Dear Parents and Carers**

I hope all our families are well and had a great Christmas holiday. It was lovely to see lots of smiley, happy faces back from a well-earned rest. We have had a busy few weeks back with our new assembly format and beginning our PATHS journey, the Infant Enrolment process is now well underway and we have already given out our first postcards home as well as celebrated with our first VIPs of the year! The weather is still particularly chilly so please bear with us as we need to assess the safety of the playgrounds in the morning before deciding how the pupils will enter the school. Could I please ask to ensure that your child has a warm coat and suitable footwear for the day? We have an incredible amount of lost property in the school at the moment. We plan to bring classes down to have a look for anything they may have lost before donating anything unclaimed to charity. Please let your child know if there is anything they should be looking out for. As always thank you for your continued support and I hope to see some of you at our next Halfmerke Havers.

Ms L Hogg

Headteacher

**Dates for your Diary**

Wed 18th January Parent Council Meeting

Tues 24th January P2 Multisport Club starts – 4 week block

Thurs 26th January Halfmerke Havers @ 9:30am

Fri 27th January P5 Fundamentals of Music block starts

Athletics Club Final @ JWSC

Wed 1st February Football Festival

Thurs 29th February Health & Wellbeing Day

Mon 13th& Tues 14th Feb February Holiday – School closed

Wed 15th Feb In service Day – school closed for pupils

**PATHS**

This week we have started our whole school PATHS journey. The PATHS programme is a Health & Wellbeing resource which improves pupil **self-esteem, self-control, emotional intelligence, classroom behaviour, conflict resolution and academic engagement**. All pupils will participate in one PATHS lesson per week in stage groups which may mean your child has a different teacher for this session. All pupils enjoyed their first session on Wednesday and I’m sure they will be happy to chat about this at home. We will be displaying and chatting about this fantastic resource at our next **Halfmerke Havers** session on **Thursday 26th January**, we hope you can come along to find out more.



**Weekly Assembly**

This week we started our new time for our weekly assemblies. P1-3 and P4-7 will have separate assemblies with Ms Hogg and Miss Byrne on Monday mornings. The focus of this together time will be our school values and sharing achievements and successes. If your child has an out of school achievement, please send us some information via the office email [gw14halfmerkeoffice@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw14halfmerkeoffice@glow.sch.uk)

**Afterschool Clubs**

Our next block of Multisport club for our P2 pupils will begin on **24th January**, this is run by our Active Schools Coordinator, Craig Allardyce. Any P2 pupils wishing to attend this club at **3pm-4pm** please complete and return the letter you should have received via email.

**Home/School Communication**

You should have received information via email informing you that SLC are now unable to use the SeeSaw platform for Home/School communication due to GDPR. The best way for us to get information out to all our families efficiently is via email, equally if you have a query or concern you wish to share with us email is the best way for us to direct this information to the relevant person. We use the office email for this, [gw14halfmerkeoffice@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw14halfmerkeoffice@glow.sch.uk) if your email is for the class teacher please share this in the subject of your email and we will ensure your child’s teacher receives this, you will receive a response either via email or phone call. We are also working on an electronic platform to share classroom information with our families and will update you when we have more information on this.

**P7 Residential Trip**

All P7 parents should have received an email detailing the final payment date for our trip to Robinwood. We have organised an information evening on **2nd March @ 4:30pm**. We will discuss arrangements for the trip and provide information about kit list etc.

**Infant Enrolment**

The infant enrolment process is now live and pupils due to start school in August 2023 should be enrolled using the form online. Once pupils are registered I will contact families to confirm we have received paperwork. Further information on our Induction process will be sent to families when dates are confirmed for this.

**Health & Wellbeing Day**



Our P7 class are organising a Whole school Health & Wellbeing Day on the **9th February** as part of their HWB Curriculum. They are planning lots of different events on this day that your child’s class can participate in. As part of their learning in Global Goals they are hoping to use this day to raise a bit of money for a charity. We will issue further information nearer the time.