



Kirk Merrington Primary School Newsletter

Autumn Term

September 2017

Welcome back, we hope you all had a great holiday. It is good to be back and was lovely to see all of the children on Tuesday looking so smart in their new uniforms. We would like to particularly welcome our new children and their families. We have some new staff in school this year too. We have a new teacher, Mrs Tuburu, who will be teaching in Mrs Thirkell's class and Mrs O'Sullivan's class. We also have two new apprentice Teaching Assistants, Miss Jacques working with Year 1 and Miss Little working with Year 2.

Thank you to all of the parents who attended the Meet the Teacher meetings. We hope you found it useful and any questions you may have had have been answered.

In our entrance area we have introduced a comments books you may choose to write in with any feedback you have during the year.

We are hoping the children will all have a fantastic year at Kirk Merrington Primary! Mrs Murray

School Events

The children have spent time in their family groups today, sharing stories and talking about their teddies.

They will meet once per month in these groups talking about and completing craft type activities linked to social, moral, spiritual and cultural topics.

The children have been experiencing an election this week and have been busy voting for new council members!

They are particularly enjoying having an afternoon break. This allows them to go to the toilet, get a drink and have a quick bit of fresh air before they get back to work. We are hoping this will improve their concentration and help them to focus on their work during the afternoon.

Sunflowers

Please send photographs of your sunflowers in by Thursday 28th September for us to send off. Ideally the photograph needs to show it being measured!!!



Fruit-Key Stage 2 children are welcome to bring a piece of fresh fruit to have during morning break if they wish.

They have been reminded not to run around whilst eating! (Key Stage 1 children are provided with fruit at school)

Facebook- This is coming soon once all of the permissions are checked!

Ear rings- Please note only small plain studs should be worn for school. Anything larger poses a safety risk during break times. Ear rings need to be removed or covered for PE.

Governors:

We would like to welcome Mr Hodgson and Mrs Geary to the Governing Body as our two new parent governors.

PTA- Friends of Kirk Merrington

The PTA welcomed our new parents on Tuesday with a coffee after they dropped their children off for their first day.

They are now preparing for their next event which will be the Macmillan Coffee Afternoon on Friday 29th September.

Please speak to Mrs Adams if you would like to join the PTA or are available to help out at events.

We would like to wish a Happy Birthday this half term to -

Brooke, Kallum, Ben S, Gracie, Bodie, Chase, Sonny, Emily, Alex, Evan, Fearne, Oliver R, Isabella, Mena, Amalia, Finlay, Edward, Stanley, Autumn, Isla, Ewan, Hayden, Layla, Grace, Joseph, Joel, Alexis & Oliver G



Dates for your diary:

29.9.17 Macmillan Coffee Afternoon
 5.10.17 Year 2 visit to the Hancock Museum
 6.10.17 School Photographs- Individual
 20.10.17 Break up for Half Term
 19.12.17 Rec, Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Play 2pm
 20.12.17 Years 3,4, 5 & 6 Christmas Play 2pm
 22.12.17 Teacher Training- PD Day (School Closed)
 14th- 17th May 2018 Year 6 SATs
 25.5.18 Teacher Training- PD Day (School Closed)
 11.6.18 Year 1 Phonic Screening Check

**Attendance**

In order to maximise their learning the children need to be in school every day. This year we are awarding termly certificates and gift vouchers at the end of the year for 100% all year.

Please try to arrange medical appointments after school. If this is not possible then the afternoon is better after the children are registered. If children are not present at the time of registration in the morning or the afternoon then they are recorded as being late, absent or medical.

Attendance is monitored regularly and we are expected to notify you when your child's attendance falls below 95%. Attendance below 90% is considered to "Persistent Absence" and therefore triggers involvement from the Local Authority.

*Please note if you take your child out of school for a holiday for 7 school days without authorisation then you are likely to receive a **fine**. This is £60 per parent, per child. The fine is issued by the Local Authority and is paid to them. Please see the attendance policy on the website for further clarification.*

We still require holiday forms to be completed so we know where the children are, even though holidays will be unauthorised unless there is sufficient evidence of exceptional circumstances.

Breakfast Club/ After School Club- Little Darlings

There are spaces in Breakfast Club should you require a regular place at the reduced price of £3.00 per day.

After School also has places which can be used as required at £7.00 per session per child.

Ad-hoc sessions can be arranged in agreement with Nicola Coulthard once children are registered.

Safeguarding

Please can you telephone the school before 9am when your child is absent as we need to make sure that the children are safe and where they should be. (01388 816230) Please complete the new data collection sheets.

Can you please make sure that you do not park in the staff carpark unless you need to use the disabled space.

Can we also remind you that the equipment on the playground should not be used before and after school.

Clubs for this half term:

	KS1	KS2
Monday		
Tuesday	Forest Club	Football
Wednesday	Football	Photography Y6
Thursday		Street Dance- Y3,4,5

School Meals

If your family circumstances have changed and you think your child may be eligible for a free school lunch then please speak to the office staff.